

THE

Library Journal

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

Library Economy and Bibliography

VOL. 22. No. 8.

AUGUST, 1897.

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NEW YORK: PUBLICATION OFFICE, 59 DUANE STREET.

LONDON: SOLD BY KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & CO., PATERNOSTER HOUSE,
CHANCING CROSS ROAD.

YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION, \$5.00.

MONTHLY NUMBERS, 50 cts.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE International Conference at London was successful even beyond expectation. The attendance, of over 500, was remarkably representative, including, besides the 80 from the United States, delegates or representatives from most of the English colonies, and from most of the civilized nations. In fact no continent was without some representative—South America being represented from British Guiana; Asia from India, Hongkong, and Japan; Africa from the Cape; and Australia by several delegates. Most of the leading governments designated official representatives, several of whom took part, speaking in English, in the interesting final proceedings—an episode of special interest as showing how largely English is becoming the world-speech. The hospitality of the English hosts, not only of the librarians but of the governmental authorities in general, the representatives of the navy in particular, the city of London and all the cities and towns visited, the owners of the princely houses and estates of England, and the head of her dramatic art, could not be excelled. And there seemed especially evident, to the Americans, a universal desire to emphasize the fact that official discourtesies or disagreements from the politicians of the daughter country would not be permitted to shadow or lessen the real and vital relations of friendship which must exist between the two great nations of the English-speaking race. In a large sense the happiest result of the conference was this knitting together, in intimate personal relationship and appreciation, of the two countries as represented by people so much at the centres of intelligence and influence as are the librarians of to-day.

FROM the professional point of view the conference was scarcely less a success. The papers were most of them broad, informing, or suggestive. There were almost none which wasted the time of the conference. The first paper called out a lively discussion, which set the pace for the rest of the meeting, and there was for the most part a remarkable exemption from the too well-known gentlemen who are more anxious to hear their own voices than to contribute to the

well-being of their fellows. Perhaps the most marked difference between the conferences held in America and this in England was in the considerable number of scholarly or bibliographical (as distinguished from cataloging) papers and the absence of the many committee reports which in the American conferences of later years so systematically cover the library field. This last is, perhaps, because English librarians have not reached out into co-operative work as American librarians have done, while on the other hand England has developed a much more extensive library literature, aside from technical helps, than has America. It was much regretted that with the crowded program, the still more crowded features of hospitality, and the large number present from widely separate places, there was less of direct personal intercourse and acquaintanceship than is usual at the American conferences, and the fact that the English librarians had exhausted their vacation possibilities in preparing for and attending the conference itself kept them from the pre- and post-conference excursions so much enjoyed by the Americans, and lost this opportunity for those pleasant and profitable acquaintanceships which have done so much to unify and dignify the library profession in America.

WHILE the library profession and the LIBRARY JOURNAL as its representative must continue to express regret that the greatest opportunity in the American library field has been treated as a question of political and partisan preferment, there will be the heartiest disposition to recognize to the fullest extent every act on the part of the new Librarian of Congress which goes to show that he means to make the great library at Washington really a national library, and to man it with the best men and adopt for it the best methods possible. Nothing can do more to justify the selection of Mr. Young than the admirable appointments he has made for the leading positions. Mr. Spofford's long and great services to the national library are recognized by appointment to a post in which his knowledge and experience should be of the greatest importance; Mr. Green was the one

man in the country to become superintendent of the building itself, the success of which is due so largely to his catholic ability; Mr. Hutcheson has well earned in this library itself the recognition that comes with his appointment as superintendent of the reading-room; and there can be but one opinion as to the choice for the new office of Register of Copyrights of the one man, Mr. Solberg, best fitted for this post by his specific knowledge of copyright bibliography, by his previous experience in one division of the national library, and by his earnest desire to do everything that he does in the best way in which it can be done. Mr. Solberg's appointment was strongly urged by the representatives of the copyright leagues and by all friends of copyright, and it is interesting to note that in this connection Mr. Young expressed his strong desire to administer the library throughout, in the selection of men, on the best principles.

THERE will be general hope that the outcome of Mr. Young's appointment by President McKinley, though justly to be criticised as a partisan act, may have as happy an outcome as the appointment of Mr. Crandall by President Cleveland, which justly met with the same criticism. Mr. Crandall has proved one of the most effective officers in the service of the government, and the best wishes of the library profession will be with Mr. Young in hope that his record will be the same. While librarians emphasize the need of training as a chief qualification for the profession, there is no feeling of narrowness in excluding from library work those not already members of the profession, as the thorough appreciation of Mr. Crandall has shown, and Mr. Young will find himself heartily welcomed by every librarian, to the extent that he makes the national library what it should be and what it may be, one of the foremost libraries in the world.

THERE seems little doubt that the Library Department of the National Educational Association was propitiously launched at Milwaukee in July. As this was the first regular meeting of the department since its organization at the Buffalo conference of the N. E. A. a year ago, it was of special importance that it should be an interesting and an influential one. It seems agreed that it was both. The attendance was not large, as compared with that of other section meetings of the conference, but

there was plenty of enthusiasm, and plans were laid for a year of active work, while one of the most encouraging features of the occasion was the real interest that seemed awakened among teachers in the subject of children's reading and its guidance. Nearly all in attendance at the meetings were teachers — there were but about 20 librarians present, a representation much below what had been hoped for — and most of these were to be ranked among the younger workers. Both of these facts are encouraging, for it is on the teacher that the success of library work in the schools must depend, and it is particularly the younger teachers, whose methods of work are yet in the formative stage, that it is desirable to reach. How best to do this, and how practically and effectively to define and strengthen what are vaguely termed "the relations between libraries and schools," are among the most important of present educational questions. The realization of this fact was shown at the Milwaukee meeting by the decision to appoint a special committee to investigate and report upon this subject. Such a report, if it covers the field practically, dealing with conditions and not only with theories, should rank with the famous report of the Committee of Fifteen on secondary school studies, and should be a contribution of the greatest value to a subject that has not yet had much detailed attention from the educational side.

It is gratifying to note that, as it has emerged from the conference committee and become law, the new tariff bill accepts, for the most part, the modifications suggested by the members of the American Library Association as regards books, many of them in the exact form in which amendment was suggested. While books, etc., are made dutiable at 25 per cent., the free list includes those imported for the use of the United States or of the Library of Congress; those more than 20 years old; those issued by scientific and literary bodies, or by individuals for gratuitous private circulation, and public documents issued by foreign governments; those exclusively in languages other than English; those in raised print for the blind; those imported, not more than two copies, for educational institutions, state, or public libraries, and those brought in by persons coming from abroad, if actually used by them not less than one year. These are fairly liberal provisions in the free list, and their adoption is further evidence of the value of the A. L. A. in practical relations.

ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OF A LIBRARY STAFF.

BY FRANK P. HILL, *Librarian Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library.*

THE usefulness of a library depends upon the efficiency of assistants and clerks employed, for upon them devolves the duty of meeting the public and its demands. The institution relies upon its assistants for its reputation at home and abroad; and it is unnecessary to say, therefore, that the staff should be organized and managed on a business basis, in the interests of the library and the public.

It is quite essential that there should be only one head, and that he should know his business. The executive officer must not be arbitrary, but must expect to have it said of him, if he keeps the institution up to a proper level, that he is exacting and hard to please. Even at the expense of popularity, the librarian must "keep at" his assistants if he wishes to secure system and order. He must maintain the high standard of excellence and duty of the staff by watchfulness and at the risk of being considered fault-finding. He should be strict, showing no partiality to relatives or friends, and should have no favorites on the staff to receive favors. It is his duty to bring to the notice of the staff not only the good things done, but any lapses which have occurred of such a general nature as may be named without hurting the feelings of any individual.

Two classes of employes with whom the wide-awake, progressive librarian is unpopular are, first, those who shirk their duty; second, those who, though doing their duty to the best of their ability, lack system and order, yet do not want to be found fault with.

I am not called upon to define the duties of assistants, or to answer question as to whether they shall learn all library work or only the work of one department, inasmuch as libraries differ as to details; but rather to consider how to keep those assistants to their duties.

The ideal assistant should be willing to do whatever is asked of her. She should be always courteous and polite, good-natured and obedient, accurate, systematic and orderly, prompt and regular, attentive and faithful, enthusiastic and forbearing, and above all things she should possess adaptability. It is better to be over-polite than overbearing, and the assistant must be impressed with the fact that she is a servant of the people, submitting many times to inconveniences and sometimes to insult, but never allowing the visitor to receive anything but the best attention.

There are few ideal assistants and fewer ideal librarians, therefore we shall speak of the ordinary mortal who takes a position in a public library.

COURTESY AND POLITENESS. — It is quite essential to good government that there should be an *esprit de corps* so pronounced that it will be noticeable to those who come into the library. Even though there may be some little jealousies — and they cannot be avoided where 20 or 30 women are gathered together — still it is possible to keep the knowledge of them from the public. A cheerful "good-morning" and a happy "good-night" are appreciated even by a dyspeptic.

Quoting from the writer's paper on "Library service" as prepared for the World's Library Congress: "What might be called 'class-friendships' are [often] formed, wherein those of a higher grade look down on those of a lower, and as sometimes occurs, do not want to associate with or do the work of the other. If allowed to remain, such a spirit breeds continual dissension. Pluck it out at once, even at the cost of hard feeling. When self is cast aside and all are working for the common good, the result is pleasing alike to the public, the trustees, and the staff. The members of the staff should keep in touch with each other as well as with all departments of the library. Good feelings produce good results. It is an excellent thing to bring the staff together (outside of library hours) to discuss library matters; and better still to meet socially on an occasional winter evening."

If such care is necessary toward those with whom we associate daily, how much more is it necessary toward the public who come to the library for business purposes! There is not an individual among my readers who does not have his or her favorite clerk with whom to trade at the store, and the same rule applies to patrons of the library. If we are not good-natured with our co-laborers, obedient to our superiors, and courteous and polite toward the public, resentment will be visited upon the library employes and management.

SYSTEM AND ORDER. — "A place for everything and everything in its place" is one of the first rules to learn, and should be the motto of every aspiring assistant. To aid assistants in living up to this motto certain rules are essential.

Rules are made to be kept and not to be broken, and are for the whole force and not for a part of it. They are made because they are wise, just, and fair to the public and assistants alike. They are necessary for the good order, government, and organization of any library staff or any business enterprise whatsoever.

Rules as plain as the nose on one's face are easily obeyed. Others that should be as plain are skipped for no reason whatever. Large rules are obeyed; it is in small rules and small things that lapses occur. It is necessary to iterate and reiterate these small rules in order to impress the necessity for observing all rules.

Sometimes one is inclined to do things in a little different way when there is no crowd than when there is a rush. This will not do. Time saved when a crowd is present is worth a great deal to the library and to the public, but not at the expense of system and accuracy.

Nor can rules be broken quietly when there is no crowd. If this is done, the individual deriving the benefit is quite likely to expect the same special favor in spite of the crowd.

Some think they may break a rule just a little, and some think that they may break it and no one else on the staff ought to break it. The only safety is in having rules for all and living up to them. One who is not satisfied to obey the rules as laid down should not make rules of her own, but should quietly take her departure.

The executive head expects assistants to have such knowledge of their own particular work that they can suggest improved methods of doing that work, and such suggestions are always desirable and pertinent. The librarian is always ready to adopt the best and easiest way. If the assistant thinks her way is better than the one adopted she ought to advise with the executive officer, or the one at the head of her particular department, before adopting it, in order that there may be unison. It is not safe to take too much for granted. A few questions asked of the authorities will save many little heartburns.

From the "Public library handbook" I quote: "If the library authorities have established a certain way of doing a thing, make up your mind that in all probability there is a reason for adopting that system, and so determine to understand it thoroughly and follow it faithfully. The end and aim of every system is order and economy; to keep apart things that ought to be apart, and to keep together things

that ought to be together." Work should be left so that anyone can take it up and never at loose ends.

A high standard is necessary, and assistants must expect to be corrected and spoken to when mistakes are made, and should not "get sulky" when attention is called to such mistakes. If one does not want to be found fault with, the best thing to do is to perform the prescribed duty or resign. It is better to accept criticism and correction in the spirit in which they are given than to resent them.

If attention is not given to the rules as laid down by the trustees and librarian, one must expect to have fault found, but it is very much better to submit to what may seem stringent rules than to take the government in one's own hands. Assistants must understand that the one in charge of any department is to be obeyed and has authority to enforce discipline. The heads of departments should be backed up by the librarian. In short, obedience is one of the chief foundation stones of the library organization.

ACCURACY.—Mistakes will occur. Nobody knows this better than the librarian, who also knows that attention must be called to these mistakes whenever and wherever they occur, in order that they may happen as seldom as possible, the great consideration being to reduce mistakes to the least possible number. To insure accuracy in records the initial should be used in all possible transactions, so that errors may be traced and corrected.

There are those who believe the librarian delights in detecting errors, in finding fault and in administering reproof; that when he is inspecting the library with an attentive ear and an observing eye it is for the sole purpose of picking flaws. Don't be misled; don't be suspicious; such is not the fact. No one knows better than he that praise and encouragement are good and necessary stimulants, and he is, or ought to be, willing to use them freely.

FAITHFULNESS AND ATTENTION.—By attention and habit one is surprised to find how easy it is to do naturally the right thing at the right time—to give the right answer to the right person.

Make yourself familiar with all details of the work wherever possible. It is better to respond to a call twice and find that the person has been attended to than to learn afterward that the person had waited a long time for some one to come.

Do a little more than your share.

ENTHUSIASM. — There will always be some on the staff who are at work only for the money they get out of it. From such people one need expect very little enthusiasm and very little real, good, downright hard work. In most cases the attendant who comes to the work when young—at 18, or even younger—is likely to have more love for the work, to understand better the real ideas of discipline, and to become more enthusiastic than one who takes up the work at 30, or later. The latter, if she has never worked before, is more inclined to go her own way, and to be a little more forgetful of the necessity for rules and regulations than would be the case were she younger.

TIME RECORD AND HOURS OF LABOR. — The library requires and is entitled to so many hours a day, and to say that assistants should meet this requirement is merely stating a business truism.

The average day should not exceed seven hours.

These hours are short, and one should expect to work up to them closely. Nine o'clock means at work at nine, and not in the building at nine.

A time record is necessary, and should be kept on honor if assistants will do it; if not, a time-clock takes the place of honor. Until an assistant becomes accustomed to regularity she is quite likely to think that five minutes is not of special importance to the library, particularly if she is coming back five minutes ahead of her usual time, forgetting for the moment the inconvenience that such change, without notice to the proper head, is likely to make to the other assistants. System must be maintained. If one assistant comes and goes in the fashion mentioned she disarranges the system and incommodates the others.

Arrival and departure should be put down day by day, and not left for two or three days. If one comes in five minutes early the record should be made at the proper time and not at the real time of arrival, for it infrequently happens that one goes to work *before* the hour set.

Promptness and regularity, therefore, are prime requisites.

Members of the staff should not spend time in talking to friends. You are not expected to sit down with those friends and talk over family and social matters in library time, and at a busy time should not stop to talk, but ask to be excused. At such a time the business obliga-

tion is greater than any social one. It is hardly necessary to say that constant conversation should not be carried on among assistants who happen to have work away from the delivery-desk or the head of any department, any more than they would be expected to look out of the window at every passing vehicle, because both are a waste of time.

CONCLUSION. — Assistants should be allowed time for illness and occasional absences for a short time without the loss of pay, where it can be made up without injury to discipline or to the work, and should be allowed to change with others. Assistants should feel that they can have an occasional leave of absence, and that they are not tied to the grindstone so closely that there is no relief. Absence for one-half hour or more for a good reason should be made up without loss of pay.

When absent regard should be had for others, and reasons should be sent to the librarian without delay.

Assistants should also be allowed to come in at any time outside of their own hours to learn work in other departments than in the one to which they are assigned. Promotion should be made from grade to grade whenever merit warrants the filling of a vacancy through such promotion.

The easy-going librarian is complained of more than the opposite kind. If good results are obtained in any library they must come through the hearty co-operation of trustees, librarian, and the staff.

"There is no more important function of the executive," says Mr. Crunden, "than that involved in his relation to his staff. It is, indeed, the very sum and centre of the executive department, for all orders of the board, as well as all action lying within the librarian's initiative, must be executed through assistants, and the effective organization and oversight of his staff is therefore the prime duty of the librarian as executive officer. Much of the success of the library, as of a business house, depends on the effective organization of the staff. The librarian should take a personal interest in his assistants down to the youngest page. He should encourage them in self-improvement, he should fairly and favorably represent them to the trustees, securing, as far as possible, their dues in hours, opportunities, and salaries. It also goes without saying that he should stand between his assistants and unfounded complaints or unreasonable criticism from the public."

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL ENDEAVORS IN AMERICA.*

BY R. R. BOWKER.

THE wearied bibliographer, at work upon a book about books, has sometimes an overwhelming sense of the littleness of human endeavor. He feels himself a "second cousin twice removed" from literature; a cube root only in the integration of books; a minor craftsman who makes the key which opens the door to the vestibule of "kings' treasures." The scholar, indeed, is disposed to aver that the bibliographer often makes not so much a key as a burglar's "jimmy," forcing entry into all storehouses of knowledge, which should be properly approached only by trained skill and patient research. The Scripture text, "Of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh," comes home with a realizing sense indeed to the bibliographer. Perhaps I have no right, as chiefly an editor, a bibliographer-by-proxy, to voice these complaints; but I am nevertheless in the better position to recognize that patient toil, often done in the dejection I have indicated, by the great number of bibliographical scholars whose work, after all, is of real and wide service, the more in these days and in coming days, when even the work of selection is beyond the province of any one scholar in any one field, and when the bibliographer must be more and more depended upon to clear the way for the scholar. It is in this spirit that I shall endeavor to present briefly to this company of English and Americans gathered under their common roof, and of librarians and bibliographers from many sister nations, an Index review of American endeavors in bibliography.

In the early years American bibliography was largely a book-trade matter, and such in good part it has continued to be. So early as 1802 an American Company of Booksellers was organized, which made almost its first business the publication in 1804 of a "Catalogue of all the books printed in the United States," which

catalog had the imprint of the "booksellers in Boston." Thereafter there was little outside the book lists printed periodically in the *Port Folio* and in the *North American Review* until, in 1847, Simeon Ide, of Claremont, N. H., published a "Reference trade list," compiled by Alexander V. Blake, which proved the *avant courier* of an important kind of work, though it is scarcely to be classed as bibliography. This publication presented the book lists of American publishers of the day, printed in the order of publishers, and was the forerunner of the several aggregations of publishers' lists into one or more volumes, now to be found in the United States, England, France, and Italy. The idea was taken up by Mr. Howard Challen, who printed in 1867 a uniform "Trade list circular," into which publishers' catalogs were combined, which was followed in 1872 by the "Trade circular annual," issued by Frederick Leyppoldt. In 1873 Mr. Leyppoldt began in its present form the "Publishers' trade list annual," which gave the model for Whitaker's "Reference catalogue of English literature," published successively in 1874, 1875, 1877, 1878, 1880, 1885, 1889, and 1894; for the "Catalogo collettivo della libreria italiana," doing like service for Italy, first issued in 1878; and for the "Bibliographie Française," started in France during the year past by H. Le Soudier.

In the meantime, American bibliographers in England, as well as English bibliographers, were doing more for American bibliography than the Americans at home. George P. Putnam, the publisher, issued in 1845, while in London, a compilation of "American facts," containing a literary department. That veteran bibliographer, Sampson Low, printed in 1856 his "American catalogue, or English guide to American literature," purporting to give works published in the United States since 1800, but containing really books after 1840; Nicholas Trübner published in 1855 his "Bibliographical guide to American literature," and Henry Stevens, "of Vermont," printed in 1866 his "Catalogue of the American books in the library of the British Museum at Christmas, 1856," supplemented by later bibliographies from his workshop and by a valuable mass of later en-

* Paper read at International Library Conference, London, July 16, 1897, and here printed with the request to librarians to supply, for the purposes of the "American catalogue, 1800-76," herein described, titles of any bibliographies not mentioned herein or in the articles by A. Growell in the *Publishers' Weekly* of June 19 and 26 and July 3.

tries now in the possession of his son. It is interesting to note how largely American bibliography, during these years, had its seat in the mother-country.

An enterprising young bookseller, Orville A. Roorbach, apprenticed in 1821 to Evert Duyckinck in New York, began, on his removal to Charleston, S. C., "At the sign of the Red Bible," the systematic collection of American book titles, beginning with 1820; and in 1849, being then again in New York with George P. Putnam, he published the first volume of his "Bibliotheca Americana," including reprints and original American publications from 1820 to 1848 inclusive. This was extended by a supplement published in 1850, both of which were combined in his "Bibliotheca Americana" of 1852, in turn continued by a supplement of 1855, a volume of addenda of 1858, and a volume IV. of 1861. The latter volume was issued by the son of the original compiler, who died in 1861. Roorbach, although his work is most imperfect bibliographically, is entitled to great credit for his personal labors and professional enterprise in making the first real "American catalogue." His work was complemented in some measure in the periodicals and volumes edited by Charles B. Norton between 1851 and 1862. With the war, however, the book trade suffered a period of stagnation, but the mantle of Roorbach fell upon a young Irishman named James Kelly, who in 1866 published the first volume of his "American catalogue," 1861 to 1865 inclusive, and in 1871 a second volume, bringing the record up to that date.

In 1876, the centennial year which gave stimulus to many important American enterprises, including the LIBRARY JOURNAL and the organizing meeting of the American Library Association, Frederick Leypoldt, among the foremost of American bibliographers, started the compilation of the original volume of the present "American catalogue" series. This was confined to books in print and for sale in 1876, and made two huge volumes, one of author-and-title and one of subject entries, which work has been supplemented by three successive volumes, covering the periods 1876-84, 1884-90, and 1890-95, the later ones with appendixes giving the publications of the United States, of the several states, and of publishing societies of America—the last-named containing, in the volume for 1890-95, entries of the issues from nearly 500 such societies, some of

them of the first literary or bibliographical importance. This work is the culmination of the trade bibliographical work carried through the office of the *Publishers' Weekly*, beginning with the weekly full-title annotated record, proceeding with the monthly index in the first issue of each month, carried forward in the "Annual American catalogue," for which the type has literally been kept standing from week to week till the end of the year, and so on to the large five-yearly volumes. This is, perhaps, the most comprehensive national bibliography which has been attempted in the book trade.

Work is now going forward upon a volume in this series, scheduling the books of the early part of the century not in print in 1876, which, with the volume for 1895-1900, will complete a record of American books of the 19th century and furnish material for a systematized general catalog supplementing that noble achievement, the British Museum printed catalog, should it be found practicable to print such a comprehensive and costly work. I am glad to note that Dr. Garnett has kindly indicated the willingness of the British Museum authorities to give every facility for completing this material from its rich resources, one of many services for which I have endeavored to indicate the gratitude of American bibliographers by inscribing to him the current volume of the "American catalogue."

The works of Obadiah Rich, who published his "Bibliotheca Americana Nova 1493-1844" in London in 1835 and 1846; of E. G. Allen, who printed a small catalog of books before 1800 relating to America; and of the two Russell Smiths, whose "Bibliotheca Americana" (really sales catalogs) were published in London in 1849, 1853, 1865, 1871, and 1874, were the predecessors of the very remarkable piece of work initiated by Joseph Sabin, another American veteran who gave years of his life to the preparations for his "Bibliotheca Americana," not completed during his lifetime, but continued under the publishing management of his son. Many of the early volumes had the benefit of the editorship of C. A. Cutter, and the later volumes have been edited by Wilberforce Eames, librarian of the Lenox Library, New York. Mr. Sabin, during his years of book-selling and auction-room experience, collected every title on which he could lay hands, and of his great work 116 parts, carrying the alphabet to Smith, have already been issued. Whether

the work will be ultimately completed through the alphabet it is not fully possible to say. In this category is to be mentioned also Henry Harrisse's "*Bibliotheca Americana*," descriptive of works relating to early America, 1492-1551, published in New York in 1856, with a supplement issued in Paris in 1872.

One of the most interesting of early American publications was the "*Bookbuyer's manual*," published in New York in 1853 by George P. Putnam, which was resumed in 1872 and continued under the title of "*Best reading*," in successive volumes, under the general management of his son and worthy successor, George Haven Putnam. These books were intended as select guides to general literature, foreshadowing Sonnenschein's "*Best books*," and since the issue of that more important work it has been found unnecessary to continue the American publication.

Meantime, however, a new class of bibliography has developed in America, based on what George Iles, its chief promoter, calls the "evaluation" of books. The "*Readers' guide in economic, social, and political science*," issued through the Society for Political Education by Mr. Iles and myself, in 1891, was an attempt in this direction; but the best example of it has been found in the so-called "*List of books for girls and women and their clubs*," originally planned in other shape by Miss Ellen M. Coe, but issued under the auspices of the American Library Association in 1895, under Mr. Iles' management and chiefly at his cost, Mrs. A. H. Leyboldt being associated in the editorial work. Since the issue of that volume—or, in its small series, volumes—Mr. Iles has also provided for an expansion of a part of the work, the divisions of fine arts and music, into a very remarkable annotated bibliography of those subjects, prepared respectively by two of the first American scholars in those departments—Mr. Russell Sturgis and Mr. Henry E. Krehbiel. This work, although covering only two specific fields, is an admirable example of the work to which Mr. Iles is most altruistically devoting his time, force, and money. Something of the sort, although not in bibliographical form, had already been done by American scholars in the field of history; but the descriptive notes and comparative annotations planned by Mr. Iles are a distinct development of bibliographical literature proper.

In the library field, America has made several

bibliographical endeavors worthy of note. The great catalog of the Boston Athenæum, although now out of date, has been for years a standard in cataloging; the composite catalog of the Brooklyn Library, semi-dictionary, semi-classed, compiled by Mr. S. B. Noyes, its first librarian, was for many years used throughout American libraries as a substitute for such a volume as Sonnenschein's work; the Peabody Institute of Baltimore has issued a remarkable catalog, and there are others beyond possibility of mention. American library bibliography has, however, taken the shape rather of special lists, such as those of the Boston Public, Harvard, Providence, and other libraries, published usually in library bulletins; or of card catalogs, often with useful notes or annotations as to the value of a book, and this last method has developed into the co-operative card catalog promoted by the American Library Association, and published for it by the Library Bureau. The plan of providing co-operatively full title entries with annotations for use on library cards has been under consideration in American library circles for many years, and one attempt was made in the weekly "*Title-slip registry*," which reprinted the weekly lists from the *Publishers' Weekly* on one side of thin paper, so that the entries might be cut out and pasted on cards of any size. These same titles were also printed for a while on cards, but then, as now, it was difficult to obtain adequate support for such work, and it is still a question whether the cards issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Section, which are subscribed for by less than 100 libraries, can find a continuous and adequate support.

Within the year past five of the most important libraries, at the initiative of Dr. John S. Billings, of the New York Public Library, now in process of development, have united in the preparation of printed cards for articles in the scientific periodicals, and a plan is under consideration for putting these cards at the service of other libraries through the medium of the Publishing Section.

The Publishing Section of the American Library Association itself is one of the most interesting developments in American bibliographical work. Its purpose is to provide for the printing of bibliographies and other library aids which could not be provided by any one library and would not be issued by any publisher. Among its distinctive work has been

the provision of lists of books for children, such as Sargent's "Reading for the young" and Miss Hewins' recent little list of "Books for boys and girls," and the issue of the "List of subject-headings," edited by Gardner M. Jones. This use of library co-operation may be cordially commended to the associations of other nations, for it has proved one of the best results that the American Library Association can show. Under its auspices, and under the title of the "A. L. A. index to general literature," there has been published the index to essays and the chapters of composite books, edited by Mr. W. I. Fletcher, the associate of Dr. Poole and the chairman of the Publishing Section, which is of international value.

A word should be said of the remarkable work of Dr. Poole himself, known throughout the world as "Poole's index," the more remarkable because it was planned and first issued by him while a student in Yale College. This index to periodical literature is, perhaps, as well known as any single bibliography published. It has been extended in five-yearly supplements by Dr. Poole's associate, Mr. Fletcher, with the co-operation of members of the American Library Association, and is now continued, as is also the "A. L. A. index to general literature," in annual lists which form part of the "Annual literary index." The monthly and quarterly compilations of this sort had been discontinued with the appearance of the "Annual literary index," but within the year past Mr. W. H. Brett, of Cleveland, has issued from the Cleveland Public Library a "Cumulative index" to periodical literature, of most interesting plan. He uses the linotype machine to print in January an index to articles in January magazines, in February an index to January and February magazines, and so on, until the December issue covers cumulatively the entries for the whole 12 months and becomes a record of the year and a permanent volume.

Our national library, still called the Library of Congress, has not yet taken its proper place, filled in large measure in the mother-country by the British Museum, of heading and centralizing bibliographical work. The few printed volumes of its catalog are partial, incomplete, and antiquated, and the physical congestion prevailing until lately has made progress difficult. The *Weekly Register* of copyrights also has not been bibliographically useful. But the

national library is now removing its books to the finest library building in the country, and it is in process of reorganization, the registry of copyrights being made a distinctive department. This gives the library a remarkable opportunity. For a fee of 50 cents, additional to a like fee for copyright entry, the Register of Copyrights is obliged to return a record of copyright, and it is the practice of copyright proprietors to pay the double fee and obtain the record in all cases. If, in the new developments, it should be arranged that this record shall take the shape of a printed card for catalog entry, and if duplicates of such cards could be supplied to subscribing libraries, a great step forward in practical bibliography would be made.

For co-operation, and in this case centralization, is a vital feature in this class especially library work. All that can be done once for all, and by one for all, should be so done. The more "the librarian of the future" is freed from mere record work, the more opportunity he will have for the useful exercise of his individuality. First, *collection*, but foremost, *selection*, must be the golden word in the treatment of books. So, first *co-operation*, but foremost *individualization*, must be the golden word in the administration of libraries. The superstition that one book must be cataloged a hundred times in as many libraries, to ensure a supply of catalogs and librarians, is unworthy of the day. The printed card, the general bibliography, co-operative helps of all kinds, should liberate the time, the money, and the force of the librarian and his staff, for the more vital work of adapting his library to the local and individual needs of the particular community of human beings which it is his duty and his delight to serve.

AN INTERSTATE LIBRARY MEETING PLANNED.

A NEW development of the joint library association meetings that have proved so successful within the last year or so, is planned for the coming winter, when it is proposed to hold a joint meeting of the librarians of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, for the special discussion of library commissions, travelling libraries, and libraries and schools. The place and date are not yet definitely decided, though it is probable that the meeting will be held in or near Chicago in January or February next.

THE DISINFECTION OF BOOKS BY VAPOR OF FORMALIN.

In 1896, at the suggestion of Dr. J. S. Billings, then director of the Laboratory of Hygiene of the University of Pennsylvania, a series of experiments were undertaken at that laboratory by Elmer Grant Horton, testing the efficiency of formalin vapor as a disinfectant for books. The results of Mr. Horton's experiments were described by him in the *Medical News* of August 8, 1896. Since then formalin vapor has attracted considerable attention as a book disinfectant; it has been used for this purpose by Dr. Billings at the New York Public Library, and many librarians have asked for information as to its use and effect.

In his article, which was also reprinted in pamphlet form from the *Medical News*, Mr. Horton refers briefly to the probability of library books being, at one time or another, handled by persons with infectious diseases, and thus becoming channels through which the disease may be disseminated. This danger, he says, is not a matter of conjecture, "for Du Cazel and Catrin have shown that books may be the vehicles of contagion. The results of their experiments were positive for the diphtheria bacillus, streptococcus, and pneumococcus, although negative for tubercle bacillus and bacillus of typhoid." The methods of disinfection used by these and other investigators were so elaborate as to be impracticable for general use. The process proposed by Du Cazel and Catrin involved disinfection of the book by the autoclave, and necessitated the exclusion of bound volumes and board covers, which were injured by the process. To obviate this difficulty, Miquel in his experiments used a strip of cloth, saturated in formalin and stretched on rollers, and spread directly beneath a rack on which the books were placed, with the edge of the leaves downwards, the whole being covered by a large jar for from 24 to 48 hours. Similar experiments in the use of formalin were made by Von Ermengem and Sugg, who found that sterilization could be effected at a temperature of 60° C. in 24 hours, but who considered books as difficult of disinfection.

The experiments conducted by Mr. Horton were made with the purpose of testing a method at once simple and efficient. The continued maintenance of a temperature of 60° C. (140° F.) was thought to be generally impracticable, and the tests were made at room temperature varying from 19° to 31° C. (66.2° to 87.8° F.). To avoid cutting the leaves of the books, a sheet of paper was folded once, and between the two leaves thus formed was placed a sheet of paper 2 cm. square. The sheets with their enclosed squares were then sterilized by dry heat, placed in a book at desired pages, and the squares smeared with a 24-hour-old bouillon culture of the organisms chosen — which were *B. typhi abdominalis*, *B. diphtherie*, and *staphylococcus pyogenes aureus*, "all of which are likely to occur in books." After drying the cultures by use of the incubator, and obtaining control cultures from the squares, the books were placed

under a bell-jar. A measured amount of formalin was then placed in a shallow glass dish under the bell-jar and allowed to evaporate, the surface of evaporation varying from 26 to 70 sq. cm. "After removal from the exposure to formalin the books were allowed to stand for various periods of time, protected from dust. At several dates after the exposure, portions of the squares were placed in bouillon at 37° C. (98.6° F.), and observed daily for some time."

The periods of exposure were for 24 hours and over, for one hour, and for 15 minutes, with varying proportions of air to amount of formalin. "The results demonstrated that 1 c.c. of formalin to 300 c.c. of air will thoroughly disinfect a book in 15 minutes, while with an exposure of one hour no greater amount of air can be permitted without vitiating the result. If the exposure be extended to 24 hours, disinfection failed to be obtained with 375 c.c. of air to 1 c.c. of formalin."

The specific conclusions reached are thus summarized:

1. Books can be disinfected in a closed space simply by vapor of commercial formalin, by using 1 c.c. of formalin to 300 c.c. or less of air.
2. The vapor of formalin is rapid in its disinfectant action. The effect produced in the first 15 minutes is practically equivalent to that observed after 24 hours.
3. An increase in the amount of air to each c.c. of formalin is not counterbalanced by an increase in the time of exposure.
4. In case the disinfection has been incomplete, the vitality of the organisms has been so weakened that they survive only if transferred in a few hours to media suitable for their development.
5. The use of vapor of formalin is not detrimental, as far as observed, in any manner to the books, nor is it objectionable to the operator beyond a temporary irritation of the nose and eyes, somewhat similar to that produced by ammonia.

In connection with the subject of disinfection of library books, it may be noted that in the *Mémorial de la Librairie Française* for June 10 and 17 of this year, M. Ferd. Vander Haeghen, of the Royal Academy of Belgium, discusses "Books and contagious diseases," and paints a gruesome enough picture of the dangers to public health that lie in "a fatal habit that is constantly increasing, that of moistening the finger to turn the page of a book." He cites the statement of Messrs. Du Cazel and Catrin as to the communicability of disease by means of books, and urges that public attention be more effectively called both to the danger of infection that persistence in the habit referred to entails, and to its offensiveness as injuring and defacing the books themselves. The editor of the *Mémorial* remarks that it is in childhood only that instruction in the proper use of books will be effective, and suggests that the minister of public instruction issue a circular on the subject, which, if the rules given therein were followed, would effectually prevent "the increase of a habit prejudicial to the health of all."

MEETING OF LIBRARY DEPARTMENT
OF THE N. E. A.

THE conference of the National Educational Association, held in Milwaukee, July 6-9, was of especial interest to librarians, as it marked the first general meeting of the Library Department of that association, which was organized at the Buffalo conference a year ago. The department held two sessions, on July 8 and 9, at both of which there was a large and interested attendance. The place of meeting was Calvary Church, considered, perhaps, the hottest church in the city, and the weather was oppressively sultry. Yet at the first meeting the attendance was 200, and at the second there was an audience of between 700 and 800. Nearly all of those present were teachers. About 20 librarians attended, the majority being from Wisconsin and Illinois. Among those present from more distant states were W. R. Eastman, Mr. Wiswell, and Miss Myrtilla Avery, of the New York State Library; A. L. Peck, of the Gloversville (N. Y.) Public Library; Mr. Brandegee, trustee of the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library; Mr. Patton, of the Helena (Mont.) Public Library; and Miss M. W. Plummer, of the Pratt Institute Library. In the absence of Miss Ahern, secretary of the department, Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, of the Milwaukee Public Library, acted in her place. The president, Mr. Dewey, was also absent, and all arrangements as to program were made by the vice-president, J. H. Van Sickle, of Denver, who was most active in making the meeting a success.

The first session, on the afternoon of July 8, was opened by Mr. Van Sickle, who read a communication from Mr. Dewey, urging the importance of the work of the department and emphasizing the value of the present meeting as an occasion for the exchange of suggestion and experience between librarians and teachers. Miss Mae Schreiber, of the Milwaukee State Normal School, then read a paper on "Training teachers to co-operate with librarians," in which she described as an example of special training for this work the course in "literature and library reading" conducted at the Milwaukee State Normal School.

"Observations upon children's reading" was presented by R. W. Bullock, a student of pedagogy in the University of Colorado, who summarized the results of investigations on the subject, data for which was obtained in the schools of Denver and its vicinity. The "observations" made gave additional proof to the established fact that most children read "not wisely but too well," and that improvement in the quality of reading is sadly needed. There was an animated and interesting discussion on the subject, which was opened by Miss Millicent Kaltenbach, of North Denver, who had found that school-room libraries were helpful factors in improving the reading of school-children. Many others, teachers and librarians, offered their opinions, and the paper proved perhaps the most inspiring one of the meeting.

The session was closed by Prof. Richard Jones, literature inspector of the University of

the State of New York, who spoke on "The moral and literary responsibility of librarians in selecting books." A committee of five to nominate officers and report on organization was then appointed, F. A. Hutchins being named as chairman.

The second and final session, on Friday afternoon, opened with a paper on "How to make sure of good books in our libraries," by W. R. Eastman, who found four conditions necessary to wise selection: (1) Definite responsibility of the trustees, (2) a distinct comprehension of the difference between good and bad books, (3) expert judgment, and (4) special information concerning new publications.

W. H. Smiley, principal of high school district no. 1, of Denver, followed with a talk upon "The relation of the library to art education in the schools." Mr. Smiley considered some of the means whereby the library can cultivate refined taste among teachers and pupils, and can supplement the department of drawing, if there be one, or can make good the deficiency if no such department exists. To this end he urged that the library bring to the notice of teachers the masters of illustration in the literature of childhood; that it catalog the work of the artist with the same care that it catalogs the work of the author, and that it make the library itself a place at once inviting and artistically attractive.

The closing paper was the feature of the afternoon. It was on "Literature and democracy," and was by William Hawley Smith, author of "The evolution of Dodd." Mr. Smith's incisiveness, humor, and direct statements made his address wholly delightful. It was largely an argument for the proper teaching of reading in schools, and for the provision of bright and cheerful books for children. He recommended the use of magazines, and strongly urged the value of close relations with libraries and librarians.

The recommendations submitted by the committee on organization were then accepted, and it was *Voted*,

"1. That the Library Department secure an enrolment of those interested in its work.

"2. That a committee be appointed to prepare and recommend lists of books and editions suited for the reading and reference use of pupils in the several grades of the public schools, to report at the annual meeting, and to make partial reports from time to time through the press and at as early a date as possible.

"3. That a committee of not less than seven nor more than 15, which shall include the department president, be appointed to report on the relations of public libraries to the public schools, indicating methods of co-operation by which the usefulness of both may be increased.

"4. That the appointment of these committees be made by the officers of the department acting as an executive board."

The officers of the department for 1897-98 were elected as follows: President, L. D. Harvey, president Milwaukee State Normal School; Vice-president, J. H. Van Sickle; Secretary, Miss Myrtilla Avery, N. Y. State Library.

THE TARIFF RELATING TO BOOKS.

THE following is the exact text of the book provisions of the tariff act approved July 24:

SCHEDULE M.—*Manufactures of Papers.*

403. Books of all kinds, including blank books and pamphlets, and engravings bound or unbound, photographs, etchings, maps, charts, music in books or sheets, and printed matter, all the foregoing not specially provided for in this act, twenty-five per centum ad valorem.

FREE LIST.

500. Books, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, maps and charts imported by authority or for the use of the United States or for the use of the Library of Congress.

501. Books, maps, music, engravings, photographs, etchings, bound or unbound, and charts which shall have been printed more than twenty years at the date of importation, and all hydrographic charts and publications issued for their subscriber, or exchanges by scientific and literary associations or academies, or publications of individuals for gratuitous private circulation, and public documents issued by foreign governments.

502. Books and pamphlets printed exclusively in languages other than English; also books and music in raised print, used exclusively by the blind.

503. Books, maps, music, photographs, etchings, lithographic prints, and charts, specially imported, not more than two copies in any one invoice, in good faith, for the use or by order of any society or institution incorporated or established solely for religious, philosophical, educational, scientific, or literary purposes, or for the encouragement of the fine arts, or for the use or by order of any college, academy, school or seminary of learning in the United States, or any state or public library, and not for sale, subject to such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe.

504. Books, libraries, usual and reasonable furniture, and similar household effects of persons or families from foreign countries, all the foregoing if actually used abroad by them not less than one year, and not intended for any other person or persons, nor for sale.

THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.

THE "conditions of competition" for the new building of the Newark Public Library, issued in pamphlet form to architects on June 21, outline the main features of what should prove an interesting and suggestive example of library architecture. The erection of the new building was authorized by the bill of March 17, 1896, which provided for the issue of \$300,000 worth of bonds for the purpose. The site chosen is centrally located on Washington street, and the building, exclusive of architects' fees, stacks, and fittings, is to cost not over \$190,000. In the preparation of the conditions the library committee have been aided by Prof. A. D. F. Hamlin, of Columbia University, as consulting architect. The competition is open to all architects, but five firms will be especially invited to enter. Each of these will receive \$250 for their work, but in case one of the five should be selected, this sum is to be considered as a first instalment on his commission. All plans must be submitted between Sept. 20-23, and within one week after that date a jury of award, consisting of the consulting architect, a member of the library board, and the librarian, will make final decision.

The conditions call for an "administration building," directly communicating with a stack building. The former is to consist of three stories and a basement, and should be made

"as broad and short as the requirements of light and space will permit." In the basement are to be placed a children's room, newspaper reading room, delivery-station room, bindery, packing and repair rooms, public and staff bicycle rooms, and facilities for storage, etc. The delivery-room is, of course, the main feature of the first floor, but the most interesting details of the plan are found here in the provision of a fiction-room and a biography-room, where free access will be practicable to the books in these classes. These two rooms, with the public catalog-room, must be grouped with the delivery-room proper, or may form substantially one room, if desired, and should be at the rear of the building, to allow direct communication with the stacks. On this floor also is the main reading-room, a public check-room, and the librarian's public room. The third floor is to be given up to the reference-room, study and special collections rooms, staff and work rooms, and trustees' room; while the third story shall contain a lecture-hall for about 250 people. The stack building is to have present accommodation for 200,000 v., with ample provision for future extension.

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY PLANS.

THE first architectural competition for plans for the building of the New York Public Library was closed on July 15, when 88 designs had been submitted. The report of the advisory committee, consisting of Prof. Ware, Dr. Billings, and Mr. Bernard R. Green, was presented on July 22, and the conditions of the second and final competition were made public on August 2. The general plan for both competitions has already been fully noted in the JOURNAL (June, p. 296). The following architects will take part in the second competition: Carrère & Hastings, Cyrus L. W. Eidlitz, J. H. Freeland, Charles C. Haight, Haydel & Shepard, H. Hornbostel, G. E. Wood & G. C. Palmer, Howard & Cauldwell, McKim, Mead & White, Peabody & Stearns, George B. Post, W. Wheeler Smith, associated with Walker & Morris, and Whitney Warren. Six of these are chosen from the first competition, and six are invited to take part by the trustees. Plans must be submitted by Nov. 1, and it is hoped to make final decision promptly thereafter.

The conditions for the final competition are detailed, and accompanied by suggestive plans; they include also the report on the preliminary competition, the result of which has been "to show conclusively that the requirements both of public use and convenience and of economical administration can be better met by the arrangements suggested in the tentative plan than by any other." The only important changes made in the first suggestive plans are (1) the raising of the level of the basement floor on 42d street, and the making of the 42d street entrance in the basement, and (2) the placing of the delivery-room in the basement story instead of in the first story.

THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE, LONDON,
JULY 13-16, 1897.

THE first International Library Conference, held in London in October, 1877, was notable as giving the first organized impulse to library work in Great Britain, and resulting in the foundation of the Library Association of the United Kingdom. In the 20 years that have passed since then, such advances in library development have taken place that it is doubtful if the second international conference, just closed, may claim as noticeable and immediate results as did its precursor. Yet this second conference was in itself the most striking testimony to the 20 years of library progress that it commemorated. In attendance, in enthusiasm, in the interest of the program and the various phases of the subject it presented, this conference must long rank as one of the most memorable events in library history. There was an attendance well beyond 500, nearly a fifth of which represented American libraries, and which included representatives of the libraries of France, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Japan, Australia, and other countries. Invitations had been sent to the chief libraries of the world, and the arrangements of the English hosts were marked by the most lavish hospitality and cordial friendliness, as is witnessed by the record of the social features set forth elsewhere.

The officers in charge of the conference were: Sir John Lubbock, president; H. R. Tedder, hon. treasurer; and J. Y. W. MacAlister, hon. secretary; while the various committees on program, reception, exhibition, etc., included Alderman Harry Rawson, president of the L. A. U. K., Dr. Richard Garnett, J. D. Brown, Charles Welch, E. M. Borrajo, Herbert Jones, E. W. B. Nicholson, Peter Cowell, and others. An interesting exhibition of library appliances was held in connection with the conference at the Guildhall, which included, besides card fittings, indicators, newspaper files, photographs and plans of library buildings, magazine racks, etc., the series of photographs of conference groups and examples of fine binding from the Chiswick Art Workers, Roger Coverly, Cobden Sanderson, and Zaehnsdorf.

The conference proper opened on Tuesday, July 13, but the *conversations* held at the Guildhall on Monday evening really marked the beginning of the week's round of work and play. It was held under the auspices of the

reception committee and the Bibliographical Society, and a special feature of the evening was Dr. Garnett's scholarly address on "The introduction of European printing in the east," which, however, appeared in the program as a part of the next morning's business.

FIRST DAY.

On Tuesday morning, July 13, the first session was opened in the council chamber of the Guildhall. The Lord Mayor of London made a short address of welcome, speaking of his personal interest, as chairman of the library committee of the town of Hertford, in the question of public libraries, and emphasizing the fact that book reading and book collecting should go hand in hand, and that use of the public library should lead to the acquisition of a private library. In regard to reading generally, he said that careless reading was to be deprecated, and indiscriminate reading was generally objectionable, but that he believed that "indiscriminate charity is better than no charity at all, and that indiscriminate reading is better than no reading at all."

Sir John Lubbock, after moving a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, which was seconded by Alderman Rawson, then took the chair, and, greeting the members in a few cordial words, delivered his address as president of the conference. Tracing the origin of the present congress to the act passed by a private member of Parliament, Mr. Ewart, in 1850, he pointed out the effect of the public libraries act in Great Britain since that time. "It has been adopted by some 250 places containing nearly half our people. Moreover the progress has been remarkable. It was passed in 1850 and soon adopted by several places. From 1857 to 1866 it was adopted by 15 localities, from 1867 to 1876 by 45, from 1877 to 1886 by 62, from 1887 to 1896 by no less than 190. In London the recent progress has been even more remarkable. From 1850 to 1866 only one public library was established, and Westminster has the honor of taking the lead. From 1867 to 1876 not one; from 1876 to 1886 only 2, from 1887 to 1896 no less than 32! These libraries now contain over 5,000,000 volumes; the annual issues amount to 27,000,000 and the attendances to 60,000,000. Five millions of volumes sounds enormous, but after all in proportion to the population it is not large.

"Australia has 844 public libraries with 1,400,000 volumes; New Zealand, 298 with 330,000; South Africa, about 100 with 300,000; in Canada the public libraries contain over 1,500,000 volumes. The United States possessed in 1890, 1686 public libraries containing 13,800,000 volumes. These numbers, however, are hardly comparable with ours. They include in some cases college and law libraries.* Moreover, we have many public libraries, which

* In 1891 the United States had, according to the government statistics, 3804 public and school libraries, containing 26,896,537 v.; in 1896, according to the last official statistics, it had 4026 libraries and 33,051,872 v. — Ed. L. J.

are not included in the above numbers. The British Museum alone contains 2,000,000 volumes."

The speaker touched upon the ever-present fiction question, saying that the amount of time necessary to read a novel was so much less than that required for works of science or other serious literature that the disproportion in the use of the two classes was not so great as it seemed. He asked the question, "What is a book?"—a question that is not so easily answered as one might think, for the Chancellor of the Exchequer is recorded as saying that he used to think he knew, but after reading in the postal guide the two pages and a half of close print devoted to this definition, he found he was quite mistaken. The difficulty in wisely choosing books was noted, and the frequent burial of good books under misleading titles, Sir John instancing a volume, which under the title "The planetary and stellar worlds" was a flat failure, but when rechristened "The orbs of heaven" sold at the rate of 6000 copies in the first month. The development of bibliographical work by the various governments, and of home reading through the National Home Reading Union and like agencies, were also alluded to, and the speaker closed with an expression of "the love for and gratitude to books," which are felt by all who have to do with literature.

On conclusion of the address a vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. Justin Winsor and seconded by the Earl of Crawford. The latter then assumed the chair, on request of Sir John Lubbock, who expressed regret that his presence was necessitated at a Parliamentary committee.

Dr. Richard Garnett's paper, which had been read the evening before at the social meeting, came next upon the program, and a word regarding it will not be out of place. Taking as his subject the beginning of printing by Europeans in the far east, Dr. Garnett gave an interesting review of the development of the art in India, China, and Corea—where printing from movable type had been in use for many centuries before Gutenberg—Japan, Africa, Australia, and Australasia. He described several of the earliest examples, and his paper was a notable contribution to the antiquarian bibliography of the subject.

Mr. J. Y. W. MacAlister, librarian of the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society of London, and hon. secretary of the L. A. U. K., after a few happy words of introduction, then presented a paper upon "Some tendencies of modern librarianship," in which he contrasted the librarian of to-day with his predecessor of 60 or even 20 years ago. "At the beginning of the queen's reign the average librarian was either a dry and uncommunicative scholar, or an uneducated person, a superannuated servant or other person incompetent for such work, for whom it was desired to find provision." But with all the advances in the equipment and qualifications of the librarian of to-day, it was to be feared that in some respects the tendencies of modern librarianship had

been to emphasize practicality at the expense of scholarship. Mr. MacAlister's paper was essentially a challenge to the modern librarian to produce his warrant, and a demand that librarians improve their own qualifications to be the adviser of the reader and increase their knowledge of leading authorities on various subjects. The relative places of fiction and instructive reading were difficult to assign, but all sane persons loved good fiction, and he deprecated a narrow spirit of exclusion of novels in favor of what were thought instructive books. An interesting discussion followed, participated in by Dr. Garnett, F. M. Crunden, of the St. Louis Public Library, F. J. Barrett, of Glasgow, Herbert Jones, Sir William Bailey, W. C. Lane, of the Boston Athenæum, and others, in which the usual divisional line between the friends of fiction and the advocates of solid literature was crossed and recrossed.

"The evolution of the public library" was then traced by Mr. H. R. Tedder, librarian of the Athenæum Club, and hon. treasurer of the L. A. U. K., in a paper that was a learned review of the library movement as part of the history of modern sociological development. He compared the characteristic features of ancient, mediæval, and modern public libraries, and pointed out existing survivals of ancient methods. The earliest librarians were priests, the earliest libraries temples, and this religious character was maintained after the fall of paganism in the monastic libraries which did so much to preserve the spark of learning through mediæval darkness. Mr. Tedder gave an interesting account of the development of college libraries and of cathedral libraries, that of Westminster being a type of the latter. It was not until the middle of the 18th century that the needs of the people at large were considered, as instanced by the Bodleian and Mazarin libraries, and it was only since 1850 that the educational significance of public libraries had gained recognition. In these were the real universities of the unattached student, and it should be remembered that though the library was a temple no longer, the librarian was still the priest of literature.

"The relation of the state to the public library" was the next subject, presented by Melvil Dewey, of the New York State Library, in a brilliant extempore address. Mr. Dewey spoke of the library of the past as a reservoir, that of the present as a fountain, and pleaded for the extension and control of libraries by the state in the same way and for the same reasons that public schools are extended and controlled. He made a strong plea for the filtration of the stream that issues from the library fountain, and spoke of the pernicious and ever-increasing influence of the sensational journalism of the day, urging that it was better not to teach a child to read at all than to give him such knowledge and let it lead him to mental and moral destruction. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Davies, of British Guiana, dissented from Mr. Dewey's condemnation of newspapers, and Mr. Avery, of Cleveland, O., pointed out that this condemnation had been applied only to

sensational journalism, which in Great Britain, as in the United States, was doing much to poison the minds of the people.

After a half-hour's adjournment for luncheon the second session was opened by Mr. Herbert Jones, librarian of the Kensington Public Libraries, who read a paper on "Public library authorities, their constitution and powers, as they are and as they should be." The present system, he thought, was characteristic of the happy-go-lucky methods common to the British people, and, though the results so far had been good, the time had come for reconstruction on a logical and uniform basis. He favored the appointment in each district of a distinct body of library authority, not too large, but varying according to the population, which should act along uniform and definite lines.

Alderman Rawson, of the Manchester Public Libraries committee, president of the L. A. U. K., continued the subject presented by Mr. Jones with a paper on "Duties of library committees." He spoke first of the work done in the libraries of Manchester, and of the enormous extension that they had undergone since the first one was founded in 1852. The duties of committees were then touched upon, first as to the engagement of officers and assistants, their working hours, salaries, and opportunities for study, and then as to the selection and purchase of books. The provision of special facilities for boys and girls, the relation of libraries to technical schools, and the value of co-operative work among the committees were described.

The personality and equipment of librarians was a subject considered in three successive papers. The first, by Charles Welch, chief librarian of the Guildhall, dealt with "The training of librarians," and urged the importance of a wide and liberal education as an indispensable part of a librarian's qualifications. There were three modes in which this training could be secured: (1) through the library itself, (2) through the general education supplied by self-culture or by a university career, and (3) through the bibliographical training to be acquired in the book trade. Of these three modes the first was undoubtedly the best, no training being equal to that obtained by actual practice, though the possession of a degree or the specific study of library economy were most useful adjuncts; but regular training for the profession of librarian was not likely to become general until the emoluments of librarians were more adequate than at present. Miss Hannah P. James, in a paper on "Special training for library work," said that special training for special work was nowadays becoming an acknowledged necessity. She described the beginning of this training under Mr. Dewey's guidance at Columbia College, and reviewed the work now being done in the United States, at Albany, at the Pratt Institute, the Armour and the Drexel library schools. "Female library assistants" was the subject of a paper by E. R. N. Mathews, librarian of the Public Libraries of Bristol, who had found the introduction of women as assistants into his libraries, made in 1876, a great success. He

gave a brief résumé of the organization of the library force under his charge, described the competitive examination adopted for candidates, and expressed his belief in the general capability of women for library work. Mr. J. J. Ogle, of Bootle, Lancashire, followed with a short paper on "Hindrances to the training of efficient librarians," which he defined briefly as (1) deficient general education in the candidate, (2) insufficient leisure for study, (3) insufficient supply of technical literature, and (4) lack of financial incentive to ambition.

An interesting discussion ensued, in which the organization and methods of library committees were considered by Alderman Mandley, of Salford, Mr. King, of Aberdeen, and Alderman Gilbert, of Southampton; and the need and practicability of technical library training were discussed by Mr. Dewey, Mr. Tedder, and others.

Adjournment was then taken, and the rest of the afternoon was given up by most of the delegates to a visit to Sion College, Victoria Embankment. In the evening the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress held a reception in state at the Mansion House, which was attended by almost the entire conference, and by several of the Indian visitors then in London as Jubilee guests.

SECOND DAY.

The third session was opened on Wednesday morning, the Earl of Crawford again presiding. The first paper read was by Mr. F. M. Crunden, on "Books and text-books: the function of the library in education." Mr. Crunden began by answering the question, "What constitutes success?" as follows: "Success in life consists in making the most of oneself." Education was, of course, the most important means of attaining this end, but education as conducted in the schools to-day often fails to furnish the means it should supply. One cause of this failure, he thought, lay in the use of text-books in schools to the exclusion of other literature. He quoted Carlyle's dictum that "the true university is a collection of books," and urged the necessity of a system of secondary and primary instruction that shall regard all children as candidates for this university, and prepare them for it. "The desire to learn must first be awakened and then quickened and fed, not crushed by set tasks; and for this purpose the world of books must be opened to the child." The inadequacy of our educational system he attributed to three causes: (1) our failure to recognize practically, though we accept theoretically, the solidarity of the nation; (2) the narrow view of education as merely a preparation for making a living; and (3) disregard of the obvious fact that the vast majority of children leave school at 13, and therefore their schooling should have started them in the path of self-culture. He gave some personal experiences from his own early education, and told of what had been accomplished with a bright boy of 13 of his acquaintance.

A short discussion followed, in which the chairman, Lord Crawford, said that he be-

lieved it would be a very long time before Mr. Crunden's prophecies attained fulfilment. The child who possessed a wide range of knowledge at the age of 13 was not an ordinary child—at least not in the British Isles, although he might be in America—and it would be better for such a child to develop his body rather than to pass through a further course of study.

Mr. Sidney Lee, editor of the "Dictionary of national biography," read a paper on "National biography and national bibliography." He described the scope and purpose of the monumental work of which he is in charge, and which he defined as a biographical census of all dwellers in the British dominions who have achieved anything worthy of commemoration. The most notable feature in the preparation of the Dictionary was the effort to give authority for every fact recorded. The life of Shakespeare, for instance, would be practically useless were not the authenticity of each of the traditions which had accumulated about his name carefully determined. He had himself attempted on a modest scale a bibliography of Shakespeariana, arranged in the order in which the student of Shakespearian biography was likely to find it convenient to approach the books. His bibliography was far from complete; the catalogs of the British Museum Library, with its 3680 entries, the Barton collection in the Boston Public Library, with its 2500 entries, and the Birmingham Public Library, with 9640 volumes, all of which had been consulted in its preparation, supplied far longer lists of Shakespeariana; but he had endeavored to observe some logical principles of classification which the larger library catalogs did not attempt. After referring to the bibliographies of Milton, Sir Walter Scott, Dryden, and others, Mr. Lee said that all that was possible was to mention, generally in chronological order, the chief articles or memoirs concerning them. The Dictionary's list of authorities contained much that was material for the preparation of a subject catalog of literature, and a subject catalog was obviously of high importance in developing the utility of public libraries. The making of subject catalogs was a subsidiary branch of the science of bibliography. In its essence, bibliography was the science of describing books as books, in contradistinction to books as literature. For the literature of Great Britain and Ireland there existed at present four notable experiments in national bibliography. At the beginning of the century Robert Watt, a poor surgeon of Paisley, sacrificed 20 years of arduous labor in compiling his "Bibliotheca Britannica," an elaborate catalog, mainly of British literature, though a few foreign works were included, arranged in two indices—one of authors' names, the other of the titles of books. The next effort in national bibliography was made by William Thomas Lowndes, who in his "Bibliographers' manual," first published in 1834, endeavored to arrange the titles of books (under authors' names) with some regard to their intrinsic interest. Lowndes, after many years of abject poverty, lost his reason and died in 1843. The

third great attempt at a bibliography of English literature was made in America, and it was to the credit of that great country that its history involved no distressing incidents like those that accompanied the efforts of Watt and Lowndes. This was Allibone's "Dictionary of English literature," projected in 1850, published in 1870, and later supplemented by the two volumes prepared by John Foster Kirk. The fourth great experiment in national bibliography was the printed British Museum catalog, which is a permanent memorial of the skill, knowledge, and industry of Dr. Garnett and his staff. He spoke of the proposed bibliographical index to the work, and paid fitting tributes to his predecessor as editor, Mr. Leslie Stephen, and to Mr. George Smith, the projector and publisher, who had contributed so much of his large fortune to this enterprise.

A discussion followed, participated in by Mr. George Smith, Mr. Davis, of British Guiana, Dr. Winsor, Mr. Tedder, and Mr. Barrett, all of whom referred to the great value and importance of the Dictionary as a contribution to English bibliography, and on motion of Dr. Winsor a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Lee and one to Mr. George Smith.

Continuing the general subject of bibliography, an excellent paper on the "Relations of bibliography and cataloging," by A. W. Pollard, secretary of the Bibliographical Society, was read by Mr. G. F. Barwick. The paper considered the various methods of arrangement of entries—as alphabetical, chronological under authors, or, for the earliest publications, by countries, towns, or printers—and pointed out that a catalog was intended primarily to describe a book in a particular library so as to enable a reader to identify it as the book he wants in the shortest and simplest manner. A bibliography, on the other hand, is designed to describe a book in its relations to other books, "either to other copies of the same edition, or to other editions of the same work, or to other works by the same author, or, again, to other works on the same subject, or, lastly, to other books printed by the same printer." In summing up his subject, Mr. Pollard said: "Let us keep clearly in our minds the fact that the aims and ideals of the bibliographer and the cataloger are by no means the same. As librarians, let us think of our readers and not of our hobbies."

In the discussion that followed, Mr. L. Stanley Jast, of Peterborough, made a plea for the entry of pseudonymous books under the pseudonym when that name was the one most familiar to the public; Mr. Frank Campbell, of the British Museum, emphasized the distinction that must exist between the work of the librarian and the bibliographer, and said that in the development of classification more had been done by Americans than by any other people; and some minor complexities of method of entry were pointed out by Mr. Weale, of South Kensington, and others. Dr. Winsor then took the chair.

"The alphabetical and classed forms of catalog compared" was the subject of a paper by Mr. F. T. Barrett, of the Mitchell Library,

Glasgow, who gave a cool and careful consideration of the question. His judgment favored the alphabetical catalog, especially in large libraries, and he thought that the special readers, who desired to know what a library contained in special lines of research and whose wants were often made the basis of an argument for classed catalogs, might be fully as well provided for by a good alphabetical catalog, which was of wider general usefulness. The chairman, Dr. Winsor, said that he long ago had come to the conclusion that a librarian should adopt that form of cataloging which best suited his own individuality. If, however, he adopted a classed catalog, he should also have an author index, and if he adopted an author catalog, he should also have a class index. But besides this he must have a proper subject index.

The next paper on the program was by Prof. C. Dziatzko, of the University Library of Göttingen, "On the aid lent by public bodies to the art of printing in the early days of typography." The earliest examples of public aid were found in the support given by municipal authorities to the early printers, Gutenberg, Sweynheym, Pannarts, and others; and the effect of state privileges and state interference in succeeding years was summarized. In the absence of Dr. Dziatzko, this paper was read by title, and the conference adjourned for luncheon.

Dr. Winsor presided during the first part of the afternoon session, which was opened by C. A. Cutter with a paper on "A classification and notation," in which he set forth concisely the characteristics of his Expansive classification, and touched upon the essentials of classification in general. The Expansive classification, he said, is composed of a series of seven tables of progressive fullness, designed to meet the needs of a library at its successive stages of growth, adding to the few classes of the first table more and more divisions till the seventh is minute enough for the British Museum. The 26 letters of the alphabet, used for the notation, enable him to mark with only two characters 676 classes, and with only three characters over 18,000. From this come elasticity, power to express the relations of subjects to one another and to their subordinate parts, and power of making intercalations of new subjects. The most characteristic feature is the use of figures to mark countries and letters for all other subjects, which makes it possible to express the local relations of any subject in a perfectly unmistakable way: the letter never being used to signify countries and the figures never being used for any other subject but countries. These local figures could obviously be applied to any subdivision, however small. It was also possible to arrange the books by countries first, and sub-arrange them afterwards by subjects. These points were explained by examples, and it was also shown how the different classes are made to correspond interchangeably.

The scheme of the classification followed the evolutionary idea throughout, its science proceeding from the molecular to the molar, from number and space through matter and force to

matter and life, its botany from cryptogams to phanerogams; its zoölogy from protozoa to primates, ending with anthropology. Other examples were given of the systematic order of classes, particularly of such natural translations as putting *Bible* between Judaism and Christianity, *Church history* between theology and history, *Statistics* between geography and economics, *Musie* between the recreative and the fine arts; it was claimed that these were not merely ingenuities pleasing only to their inventor but of practical value, since they answer the purpose of all classification by bringing together books which one might wish to see at the same time. Mr. Cutter's advice to the makers of classification schemes was "Be minute, be minute, be not too minute." The Expansive classification, while providing tables of extreme minuteness, in many cases advised, though it did not impose, broadness. An important principle was to divide when division is easy, and to avoid division where it was hard to comprehend the reasons for it, and difficult to see the differences between the subjects when separated.

"Classification in public libraries" was the subject of the next paper, presented by A. W. Robertson, of Aberdeen, who reviewed the various schemes in use and laid down the general rules that must guide the classifier. He had found that though at first a librarian might be satisfied with a broad and general classification, it would be necessary, as the library extended, to adopt a fuller and closer one, "that classification being determined by the books on the shelves and not by a theoretical tabulation of human knowledge."

In the discussion that followed, Mr. Ogle said that Mr. Cutter's classification was very little known in England, but that he felt that it appealed strongly to the English mind. He considered the section on medicine a masterpiece. The subject of movable and fixed location was discussed by Mr. Crunden and Mr. Barrett, and further remarks on intricacies of classification were made by Mr. Lane, of Boston, and Mr. W. H. Wesley, of the Royal Astronomical Society, London.

H. C. L. Anderson, of the Sydney (N. S. W.) Public Library, read a paper on "Library work in New South Wales," describing various Australian libraries, and speaking of the library conference held in Melbourne last year. Mr. F. M. Crunden then took the chair, and the last paper of the afternoon was read by Mr. W. H. J. Weale, librarian of the National Art Library, South Kensington Museum, whose subject was "History and cataloging of the National Art Library." He briefly sketched the history of the library from 1852, describing the re-arrangement and new system of cataloging introduced in 1890, and said that all articles on art that appeared in the magazines and weekly papers, as well as those printed by foreign societies, were now cataloged at the library.

Wednesday afternoon and evening were devoted, as were the afternoons and evenings of the days preceding and to follow, to the pleasures of sightseeing and hospitality. At the con-

clusion of the session the conference adjourned to a garden party, given in their honor by the Marchioness of Bute at St. John's Lodge, Regent's Park, and the evening was given up to the reception tendered the library visitors by Sir John and Lady Lubbock at their residence, 2 St. James square.

THIRD DAY.

On Thursday morning the fifth session was opened in the old council chamber at the Guildhall, the Earl of Crawford presiding, succeeded by Sir John Lubbock and Melvil Dewey. The first paper read was by Peter Cowell, of the Liverpool Public Libraries, on "Library work 40 years ago." Mr. Cowell exemplified the changes in library methods during that period by a review of his own experience in Liverpool, where nearly 44 years ago he issued the first book from one of the two lending libraries established in that city in 1853. Comparing the reading now with that of his earlier experience at Liverpool, Mr. Cowell thought that while elementary and other schools had certainly raised the general level of education, there were proportionately more earnest persevering and determined readers 40 years ago than at present. One reader read consecutively the whole of Rollin's "Ancient history," Alison's "Europe," Gibbon's "Rome," and Ranke's "Popes," and another the "Universal history," Gibbon, Macaulay, and Lingard; and there were others like them. Nowadays persistent steady reading like that was comparatively rare. Magazines, reviews, and journals, had to a great extent, particularly with commercial people, superseded books themselves. Mr. Cowell touched upon some of the special features of the work at Liverpool—the free lectures, circulation of music, issue of books for the blind, and the other departures which make his libraries among the most progressive and successful of Great Britain. Commenting on Mr. Cowell's paper, Mr. Curzon, of Leeds, spoke of the work being done in village libraries in Yorkshire, where the Union of Institutes, of which he is secretary, supplies 200 villages and 15,000 readers with books. Mr. Elliott, of the Belfast Public Library, said that the experiment of free lectures tried at the library with which he is connected had proved popular and successful.

"Public library architecture from the librarian's standpoint" was the subject of a short paper by F. J. Burgoyne, of the Lambeth Public Libraries, who urged that library utility rather than an artistic exterior should be the chief consideration. First, the site should be easily accessible and in a main thoroughfare; then the general plan should admit of extension, as books increase very rapidly. The rooms should not be too large, the cases not too high, the lighting should be well distributed. Special attention should be devoted to heating and ventilation. In the discussion, by Messrs. Crunden, Winsor, Tedder, Richardson, and Lucas, these last two points were mainly dwelt upon, the chairman, Lord Crawford, explaining the system in use at the Houses of Parliament.

Mr. Beresford Pite, F.R.I.B.A., later read

his paper on "Library architecture from the architect's standpoint," in which he pointed out that the many public libraries recently erected in England had evolved an interesting type of plan for buildings of moderate size, varying with the requirements of site and locality, but economical, manageable, and useful. He pleaded that art quality and library convenience should go together, and showed photographs of the Laurentian library, Florence, in illustration. Commenting upon the paper, Sir Frederick Young observed that the main question in library architecture was, Are the books meant for the library, or is the library meant for the books? and Mr. Cowell spoke of the great help that the architect could give to the librarian, if the main purpose of the building was realized by him.

Children's reading was the next subject on the program. This was presented in two papers, and gave rise to an interesting discussion. Miss C. M. Hewins, of the Hartford Public Library, spoke first on "Books that children like," in which she quoted comments made by the children themselves upon books read by them. She had found that children who have few books generally like fairy tales best, Andrew Lang's fairy books being prime favorites, and she named books in the various branches of fiction, history, biography, science, etc., in which children, by their own account, found pleasure and profit. A paper by Mr. J. C. Dana, on "Our youngest readers," was read by Mr. Ogle. In it Mr. Dana gave the results of the statistical investigations of school-children's reading recently undertaken in Denver (*see L. J.*, April, p. 187), and urged the necessity of making teachers, and, if possible, parents, acquainted with the best books for young readers, and especially of bringing the library resources within the grasp of little children, and thus awakening in them a love of books.

The discussion of these papers was extended and animated. Sir William Bailey, speaking for Alderman Rawson, said that in Manchester there was a room for children that was filled nearly every night of the week. A similar room was recently established at the Chelsea (London) Public Libraries. In response to questions, Miss Sharp described the mode of establishing and conducting home libraries, and Mr. Wright, of Plymouth, described an arrangement made by his libraries with the school board, by which the schools of the district were supplied with a certain number of books for the children's use. The noon recess was then taken.

In the afternoon session the first paper listed was that of Mr. J. N. Larned, of Buffalo, N. Y., who was unable to attend the conference. It was on "Organization of co-operative work among public libraries," as to which he said that the possibilities of co-operative work among public libraries could be realized only by an organization that would provide for it a permanent editorial director, adequately salaried and devoting his whole attention to the work. Probably the best mode in which this might be accomplished was by the formation of a distinct international association for the purpose, while

the value of the work that could be done through such a body could hardly be overestimated. The special line of co-operation considered was that relating to the preparation and issue of indexes and bibliographic guides.

Mr. H. H. Langton, of the University of Toronto, followed with a paper on "Co-operation in the compilation of a catalog of periodicals," presenting the need of a single international catalog of the periodical publications of the world, exclusive of newspapers and literary magazines, and suggesting as the leading features of such a work a definite and limited scope, subject classification, and continuation by annual supplements.

At the conclusion of Mr. Langton's paper, Dr. B. Lundstedt, the delegate of the Swedish government, presented to the conference a copy of his great bibliography of Swedish periodical literature,* of which two volumes have so far been completed. The chairman, in acknowledging Dr. Lundstedt's gift, spoke of the bibliographical work being done by the Brussels Institut International de Bibliographie, and introduced M. Paul Otlet, secretary of the institute, who explained its aims and methods, and presented to the conference a set of its publications. M. Leopold Delisle, through M. H. Ormont, the delegate of the French government, also presented to the conference the first volume of the great printed catalog of the Bibliothèque Nationale, which will extend to 150 volumes when completed.

"Printed card catalogs in America" was the subject of a paper by Mr. C. W. Andrews, of the John Crerar Library, Chicago, who explained the preparation and the advantages of the printed cards used in the Boston Public Library, New York Public Library, Harvard University, and the John Crerar Library, and suggested their possible co-operative extension among libraries generally. In the discussion the use of linotype machines for library printing was brought up, and Mr. Putnam described their successful operation in the Boston Public Library. The work of the A. L. A. Publishing Section in issuing printed cards was briefly explained by Mr. Lane, who presented the report of the section made to the Philadelphia conference of the A. L. A. Mr. Frank Campbell, of the British Museum, spoke on the need of securing government aid in co-operative bibliography, and Mr. Bowker referred to the important work in that direction that might be done in the United States through the reorganized Library of Congress.

The final paper of the session was read by Mr. Putnam, of the Boston Public Library, on "Local library associations in the United States." He briefly described the scope and aims of the 25 local library associations in the United States, which with their 1985 members and their aggregate of 92 meetings a year were the most effective of all means for strengthening and extending the influence of the national association.

The members then adjourned for the usual round of entertainment, which comprised, for the rest of the afternoon, a visit to the library of Brook House, Park Lane, by invitation of Lord Tweedmouth, a visit to Apsley House, by invitation of the Duke of Wellington, and afternoon tea at Grosvenor House by invitation of the Duke of Westminster. In the evening the delegates attended the special performance of "The merchant of Venice," given in their honor at the Lyceum theatre, by Sir Henry Irving.

FOURTH DAY.

On Friday, the final day of the conference, after devoting the first hour to preparing for the instantaneous group photograph taken in front of the Guildhall,* the morning session was opened by the Earl of Crawford, who was later succeeded in the chair by Alderman Harry Rawson and Sir John Lubbock. The first paper was on "Libraries of the northern states of Europe," by Andreas S. Steenberg, of Horsens, Denmark. These libraries are commonly of two distinct classes, scientific libraries, which are state libraries, and the libraries of the people, which are generally private institutions, the first being usually well supported and progressive, while the latter are far behind those of the English-speaking nations. He described briefly the chief libraries in these two classes, the most notable of the people's libraries being that of Helsingfors in Finland, from which 90,000 v. are issued yearly; next in importance come the libraries of the municipalities of Copenhagen (seven libraries), and the Bergen Town Library. These northern states have no library acts, no library buildings, no reading-rooms, and the libraries are open only a few hours weekly.

The next paper on the program was on "An indicator-catalog charging system," by Jacob Schwartz, of the Free Library of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, New York, and in Mr. Schwartz's absence it was summarized admirably by Mr. Cutter, who referred to it as claiming the advantages of both the English indicator system and the American slip method. A brief discussion developed the fact that a similar method was already in use in England.

The subject of free access was introduced in a paper contributed by W. H. Brett, of the Cleveland (O.) Public Library. It was entitled "Freedom in public libraries," and was a review of the advantages and disadvantages of open shelves, the former, in the writer's mind, much outweighing the latter. Mr. Brett emphasized the economy in service that resulted from the free-access system, and the great benefit it was to the public, instancing the libraries of Philadelphia, Cleveland, and other American cities to show the practicability of the method in larger libraries.

An animated discussion took place, in which much difference of opinion was manifest. Sir

*Sveriges periodisk litteratur: bibliografi, 1645-1894. 3 v.

*Copies can be had at 3s. 6d. each, by addressing Argent Archer, 195A, High st., Kensington, London, W.

William Bailey said that to his mind such a proposal was simply a plea for anarchy. Mr. C. Madeley thought that this was pre-eminently an open question. His rule was "liberty with discretion," and he had found it possible to give liberty to nine-tenths of his readers in such a way that they did not know there were any restrictions. The Public Library of Clerkenwell, he thought, proved that the plan of free access could be thoroughly successful. Alderman Southern believed that free access, while generally desirable, was often impracticable, as to introduce the system many libraries would have to be reconstructed. Mr. Bradshaw, of Nottingham, said that in his library open shelves had resulted in the loss of many books, and that it had proved absolutely necessary to have the shelves controlled by assistants; the library had recently been altered, so that now the lending-room was wholly controlled by the counter. He thought that with a library properly designed for the purpose, free access could easily be carried out. Other speakers on the subject were Mr. Davis, of British Guiana, Mr. F. H. Jones, Mr. Putnam, Mr. Jast, and Mr. Doubleday.

"A hint in cataloging" was the title of a short paper by F. Blake Crofton, of the Legislative Library of Halifax, Nova Scotia, which proved to be an elaborate description of what he called an autobiographical dictionary, which he said he classified under "Wit and humor." Mr. E. A. Petherick, of London, discussed "Theoretical and practical bibliography," urging the preparation of catalogs in accordance with (a) the requirements of readers, (b) the character and (c) the extent of the collection, and (d) with a view to permanence. Mr. R. R. Bowker followed with a paper on "Bibliographical endeavors in America," in which he summarized the various efforts toward a national bibliography in the United States, from the little "Catalogue of all the books printed in the United States" of 1804 to the "American Catalogue" of the present period.

The afternoon session opened with a "Description of the more important libraries in Montreal, with some remarks upon departmental libraries," by C. H. Gould, of McGill University Library, Montreal, who gave an interesting historical sketch of the chief Montreal libraries, and offered some excellent suggestions for the administration of department libraries. Ernest C. Richardson, librarian of Princeton University, was not present; but his paper on "Libraries as the prime factor in human evolution" showed how, as by language concepts are transferred ready formed from one individual to another and ideas are built up as though from individual sense-impressions, so, by books, the built-up experiences of former generations and foreign thinkers are added to the mental equipment of the individual. Thus the library becomes the chief factor in the development of the mind, and the greatest instrument in human evolution, and it is in its growth and administration to meet its opportunities that lie the only potentialities for future progress.

Mr. John Thorburn, of the Geological Survey

of Canada, had a paper on "Counting and time-recording," in which he reviewed the various methods of counting adopted by different nations, describing the limited range of the use of numbers prior to the introduction of the Arabic numerals, the varying ways in which dates have been given and recorded in ancient and modern times, and the curious methods of dating documents practised in Scotland and France as late as the 18th century.

In the absence of Mr. George Iles, his paper on "Expert appraisal of literature" was submitted as printed and distributed; it gave a clear and interesting account of his proposals for the "evaluation" of books. Mr. Frank Cundall, of the Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, W. I., described "Library work in Jamaica," in an interesting paper, that touched upon West Indian libraries in general, and gave practical hints on details of library management in tropical climates. He explained that the book-worm and the cockroach were the worst enemies to books in the West Indies, though the "fishmoth" and the white ant were also to be feared, and he said that books intended for use in the tropics should be bound with poisoned paste and glue.

This was the last paper of the program, and votes of thanks, expressions of international amity, and acknowledgment of the brilliant welcome and lavish hospitality with which the visitors had been greeted were the next order of the day. Alderman Rawson, in a few closing words, referred to the pleasure it had afforded the L. A. U. K. to greet so many colonials and friends from distant countries. Prof. Comm. Guido Biagi, the delegate from Italy, begged to express his appreciation of the important results of the meeting and the kindness and hospitality with which the visitors had been received. He was followed by Mr. Steenberg and Mr. Lundstedt in a similar vein, and these thanks of the foreign delegates were briefly acknowledged by the chairman. Mr. Dewey returned thanks in the name of the Americans, Mr. Langton for the colonies, Mr. Enjiro Yamaza spoke for Japan. Votes of thanks were passed to Sir John Lubbock, to the various vice-presidents who had occupied the chair, to the Lord Mayor and corporation for allowing the use of the Guildhall as a meeting-place, to the generous hosts whose hospitality had been so warmly extended, and to the reception committee. Thus, in all good fellowship and kindness, the second International Library Conference came to an end, having added another and an enduring link to the chain of common aims and common interests that binds together library workers the world over.

There still remained an aftermath of sight-seeing and entertainment. In the afternoon library parties visited Lambeth Palace and its library; Stafford House, by invitation of the Duke of Sutherland; and Apsley House, which had been the goal of a previous party on the day before. In the evening the Hotel Cecil was the scene of the brilliant conference dinner, attended by over 300 of the delegates and their friends, the crown and finish of the London meeting.

SOCIAL AND TRAVEL FEATURES OF THE
CONFERENCE.

THE VOYAGE.

On the beautiful afternoon of June 26 the library party, comprising 47 persons, including librarians and their companions, left East Boston in the Cunard steamer *Cephalonia*, amid the cheering of hundreds of friends and kindred who waved a *bon voyage*. The weather was exceptionally fine for several days, the company was harmonious and agreeable, and on Wednesday evening a meeting of the A. L. A. party was called in the music-room. The list was read, and each one responded by rising in turn. The boat proved so steady that but few were inclined to meditate on the uncertainty of all things in particular, and the instability of water in general; and the days passed swiftly and pleasantly in social talk, shop talk, and the discovery that each one knew some mutual friend of others, and that "the world is a very small place." On July 3 a meeting of all passengers was called to consider the propriety of celebrating the glorious Fourth. Prof. A. S. Hill presided, and a committee was chosen to take charge of the evening program, which was to be of a literary nature, and another to superintend the games to be provided for the Monday's entertainment. The evening passed pleasantly with recitations of selections and original poems, introduced very wittily by the chairman, Rev. T. F. Wright, of Cambridge, Mass.

On the morning of the Fourth there was a suspicious quiet aboard which boded little good, and the news soon spread that the shaft was bent and that the engines had stopped at half-past five; that the boat was drifting slowly to northward, and must wait till some benevolent Samaritan came to her aid. Soon after 7 a.m. a steamer was seen on the horizon, which was signalled and tooted to in vain. She "went by on the other side." Meantime the wind blew freshly from the south, and all wondered "How long?"

Each one laid in what store of patience he could command, when about 3 p.m. the boat-swain's whistle gave the joyful signal that a steamer was in sight, and in a few moments she turned and came swiftly towards the *Cephalonia*. What a relief it was when the signals exchanged told that the steamer *Floridian*, from the West Indies and bound to Liverpool, would take the *Cephalonia* in tow to Queenstown. The quiet endurance of the morning at once changed into the gladness of hope, and the whole aspect of things wore a different hue. A more grateful company could hardly have been found the world over, and all felt once more in a cheerful mood—and ready to celebrate the next day. True, the party would not be in time to partake of the festivities awaiting them in Liverpool and Manchester, for Thursday was the very earliest time that could be made, as the steamer could hope to go not more than from four to six miles an hour, and was 400 miles away. But all were safe, and happy. On Monday the second part of the celebration took place, and was very entertaining.

Wednesday it was announced that the steamer would reach Queenstown at night, and she did so after a day of perfect beauty off the coast of Ireland. Time fails to tell of the sail up the beautiful harbor of Queenstown, the miseries of the midnight scramble for trunks at the customs house, the night journey to Dublin, when the day began to dawn at midnight, the crossing of the Irish Sea, and the ride through Wales and the arrival at Birmingham Thursday afternoon. 36 hours of wakefulness sent all early to bed, and when the anxious predecessors arrived late to greet their fellows not a librarian was in sight, and their congratulations had to wait until Friday morning, when at last the reunited brethren and sisters exchanged glad greetings.

THE WELCOME AND THE WAITING—LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool, in the person of the ever-genial Peter Cowell, stood ready with open arms to give first welcome to the library pilgrims from America, and great was the sorrow when Tuesday, July 7, arrived, and the pilgrims did not arrive. Mr. Lane, chairman of the travel committee, accompanied by his mother, Mr. and Mrs. Utley, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. Gould, of Montreal, Mr. Eakins, of Toronto, and Rev. Mr. Gillies, chairman of the library committee of Kingston, Jamaica, W. I., were the only American representatives at Liverpool, and, with Mr. Bowker, who reached Wigan the next day from London, these few were obliged to drop all sense of humility and try to expand themselves into representing the 50 who had not arrived, and—all America! It was noted, however, that the party did represent remarkably the widespread distribution of library development in America. Mr. Cowell did his best to cause the little company to forget their anxiety about their fellow-countrymen, showing them about his library, noted everywhere for its large success, and making everything in Liverpool open to them, and in the evening the formal hospitalities of the pre-conference program began with a *conversazione* tendered by the Library, museum, arts, and technical instruction committee of the Liverpool Council. The magnificent rooms of the superb building in which the culture-features, so to speak, of Liverpool, are housed, were thrown fully open, and were thronged with nearly 700 of Liverpool's most representative men and women, gathered to greet the American party, if not with the Americans themselves. Sir William B. Forwood, chairman of the committee, and Miss Forwood, received the visitors in the upper vestibule of the Walker Art Gallery, supported by the members of his committee, and Mr. Cowell, as host, was supported also by Mr. Charles Dyall, curator of the art gallery, and Dr. Forbes, director of the museum. In the Picton reading-room the Probyn Ladies Sextet discoursed instrumental and the Minster Vocal Quartet vocal music, and in one of the art gallery rooms the Liverpool Constabulary Band played. The would-be welcome was altogether a delightful one, though the regrets over the absentees were widely and sincerely expressed.

WIGAN AND HAIGH HALL.

On Wednesday morning, July 7, the little party, accompanied by Sir William Forwood, Mr. Cowell, and other English friends, made the pleasant run by rail to Wigan, and were relieved to have news that the absentees, after a Fourth-of-July accident off the Irish coast, had suffered no harm and little anxiety, had been reported at Queenstown, and were nearing that harbor of refuge in friendly tow. At Wigan, the interesting Free Library and its separate building for the Boys' Reading Room were first visited, under guidance of Mr. Folkard, the librarian, and thence the visitors made the pleasant journey, two miles out, to Haigh Hall. Not only had the lovely grounds (from which could be seen the church of Standish, whence came the doughty Captain Miles) and the beautiful house, Haigh Hall, been thrown open by the Earl of Crawford—who came down from the London season especially to receive his visitors—but a remarkable selection of over 500 manuscripts of all ages and countries, rare books, proclamations, and rich bindings (especially of the inlaid metal ones, in which Lord Crawford's collection is so rich), had been laid out in the rooms, numbered, and cataloged, by Mr. J. P. Edmond, Lord Crawford's librarian, in an admirable printed catalog dedicated to the American librarians. Special care had been taken to show things relating to America or to the English forefathers. This was a surprising foretaste, quite overwhelming to the visitors, of the lavish hospitality in store for the pre-conference party. The guests were welcomed by Mr. Lindsay, one of the younger sons of the house, who presented them to his father, and after an hour or two spent in inspecting the treasures, Lord Crawford pointing out here and there special matters of interest, the large party, including the mayor and many citizens of Wigan, were ushered to the large marquee on the lawn, where, as soon as the guests were seated, a delightful luncheon was served.

After luncheon, Lord Crawford gave the toasts, first of the Queen, then of the President of the United States, then of his American guests, bidding them heartily welcome, expressing his keen regret at the enforced absence on the choppy seas of so many of his hoped-for guests, and coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Lane, who responded pleasantly. Sir William Forwood proposed, and Mr. Bowker, for the Americans seconded, the health of the host; the former referring regretfully to the proposed increase of "death duties" which might discourage private collections hereafter; the latter emphasizing the fact that official misunderstandings could not lessen the real knitting together of "kin across sea," which was so much strengthened by such kindnesses as these hospitalities, referring to Lord Crawford's great services as a trustee of the British Museum and as a promoter of scientific and industrial progress in England, and coupling with the Earl's health that of Mr. Lindsay and the family of Haigh Hall.

Lord Crawford, in returning thanks, gave a

brief history of the Haigh Hall collection, begun in the 14th century, promoted by the literary interest of the family (illustrated in Lady Anne Lindsay, whose ms. of "Auld Robin Gray" was among the exhibits), but made chiefly by his father, who had begun the larger collection with the purpose that whatever might be the taste or interest of any future head of the house, he might find a nucleus of books on his special subject in the general collection. While specializing the library in manuscripts and on other lines, he had kept the general purpose in view, and he was glad to say that his eldest son continued the interest in books. As to the "death duties," he hoped the representations already made to the ministry might have their effect in preventing legislation which might compel heirs of such collections to disperse them.

MANCHESTER.

From Wigan, in the late afternoon, the party went on to Manchester, where again everything was made ready for them with wonderfully thoughtful and complete organization of details. There was a printed time-table for the visitors' busy hours; descriptive "Notes on Manchester institutions visited by the American delegates" had also been specially prepared, and the visitors were driven from point to point under personal guidance, and at each place the official head was waiting to give welcome and a brief address of explanation. Consequently, the Americans, here as afterward, saw and heard as much in one day as most visitors in three. Wednesday evening the Lord Mayor and his daughter, Miss Roberts, had asked leading Manchester citizens, men and women, to greet the visitors in the noble town hall, where they enjoyed the wall pictures of Madox-Brown, the charming concerts given severally by the vocalists of the evening, by the city organist on the great organ, and by the Manchester City Police Band; the banquet which was spread during the evening, and above all the warm personal welcome given by the Lord Mayor, still young in heart and action at the age of 79. To each of the Americans present he expressed his regrets for the wanderers and asked to have this feeling of all Manchester reported to them on their arrival.

Thursday, July 8, was a hard-working day, filled with pleasures. The American visitors, with a number of English librarians and Manchester people, met first at an informal reception at ten o'clock at the Free Reference Library, occupying the old town hall in King street, where Alderman Southern, the efficient chairman of the free libraries committee, Alderman Hoy, the enterprising chairman of the technical instruction committee, with their colleagues, and Mr. C. W. Sutton, chief librarian, to whom the visitors owed the great part of their pleasures, gave cordial welcome. Mr. Southern outlined to some of his guests the fine plans Manchester was discussing for the future of the library in new quarters. The crowded shelves, and the astonishing ladders, reaching in default of galleries, nearly to the top of the

18-foot room, testified to the necessity for removal. Thence the party took conveyances to the superb new building erecting, in cathedral style and with all the solidity and artistic detail of an old cathedral, by Mrs. John Rylands, to house the magnificent collection of books, including the Althorp collection purchased from Earl Spencer, which is to be her memorial to her husband, the eminent manufacturer and merchant. The building, from the designs of Mr. Champneys, with rich scholastic ornamentation and a noble window figuring the great scholars of all ages (including the American Jonathan Edwards), will be ready a year or so hence to receive the 60,000 and more volumes already collected—a great scholars' library. Mrs. Rylands, being absent on the continent, Mr. W. Linnell and Mr. W. Carnelley, partners in the Rylands house, and Mrs. Rylands' advisers in this noble memorial, conducted the visitors through the building, Mr. Carnelley making a brief speech of explanation and Mr. Bowker expressing for the American visitors their appreciation of the fine thought of Mrs. Rylands in making this shrine for books so worthy a memorial. At the ancient Chetham Hospital and Library the Dean of Manchester and Archdeacon Anson, on behalf of the feoffees, welcomed the party, who returned thanks through Mr. Lane; and the governor, Mr. W. T. Browne, made the tour of the old, old buildings, pointing out the many features of interest. Thence the party returned to the new town hall, where the two committees had provided a bounteous luncheon, Alderman Southern occupying the chair with the Lord Mayor on his right, and Alderman Hoy with the ladies of the American delegation on the other hand. After the toast to the Queen from the chairman, Mr. Hoy proposed the health of the visitors in a most felicitous speech, in which he referred gracefully to the common heritage of the two countries, and Mr. Eakins, of Toronto, responded for the Americans, referring incidentally to the loyalty of Canada to the mother country. The Dean of Manchester very wittily proposed the health of the Lord Mayor, Dr. Ward toasted the chairman, and Sir William Bailey gallantly gave the health of the ladies, to which Mrs. Rawson gave a pleasant word of response.

Under the guidance of Alderman Hoy, the visitors next inspected the spacious but yet incomplete building for the Municipal Technical School, in preparation for which he or others of his committee had personally visited most of the like institutions in England and elsewhere. They then drove to Owens College, where Principal Ward gave a succinct account of the development of the college and of its library, soon to be housed in the new Christie Library building, the gift of ex-Chancellor Christie; and Prof. Boyd-Dawkins, head of the Manchester Museum, connected with the college, in defining and describing the museum, expressed his indebtedness to American museums for many of the ideas therein embodied. These courtesies were acknowledged by Rev. Mr. Gillies, of Jamaica, W. I., for

the American visitors, responding to Alderman Thompson's pleasant word. The day ended with a cordial welcome to the remarkable Tudor exhibition at the City Art Gallery, where Councillor Pythian acted as host, and where afternoon tea was served, and in the evening the little delegation went on to Birmingham, there to meet the long-delayed "Cephalonians."

THE REUNION — BIRMINGHAM.

Friday, July 9, found all united in the hospitable town of Birmingham, where again most careful preparations had been arranged to make the most of the day. The printed time-table included also a brief list of books relating to Birmingham, prepared by Mr. Charles E. Scarse, local hon. sec. of the L. A. U. K., to whom the visitors were largely indebted for the success of the day.

The visitors gathered at the Central Free Library, where that veteran among librarians, J. D. Mullins, active in mind though enfeebled in body, shook hands with as many of the guests as his strength permitted. The noble building and its worthy contents, especially the Shakespeare library, were inspected with great pleasure, under the guidance of Councillor Charles Green and the sub-librarian, Mr. A. C. Shaw. Thence many of the visitors diverged from the regular program for a brief call at the old Birmingham Library, a proprietary library more than a century old, presided over by Mr. Scarse, where they were especially interested in the proprietors' rooms—a sort of club feature—and in the dust-extractor, working by suction, upon which some keen eyes lighted. The Birmingham Midland Institute, one of the great originating centres of public education in England, was next visited, under the guidance of Treasurer Matthews and Councillor Martineau. At noon a reception was held by the Lord Mayor, James Smith, Esq., in the fine rooms of the council house, and a pleasant luncheon was served, at which Alderman Fallows and others of the Council, U. S. Consul G. F. Parker, and many others were present. The Lord Mayor, speaking especially to the newly-arrived party, emphasized the appropriateness of visiting first the county of Warwickshire, the birthplace of Shakespeare and George Eliot, and said that there was no part of Birmingham's municipal life more fully appreciated and more cheerfully supported by the people than the free libraries. He hoped America and England would continue to go hand in hand; the readers of both enjoyed the same books, and gave librarians the same trouble and anxiety. Mr. Crunden gracefully returned thanks for the visitors.

In the afternoon the Municipal School of Art was first visited, and then Mason College and Library. The visitors next found their way to the remarkable building of the Municipal Technical School, where brief addresses of explanation were made by Councillor Martineau and Principal Sumpner, after which the interesting practical features of the school received careful inspection. Some of the visitors found their way to the great town hall which had so

often echoed to the voices of John Bright and his fellows. At five o'clock, at the invitation of President Windle and the committee of the Birmingham Library, all gathered at the Grand Hotel for "tea," which proved to be a bountiful supper. Dr. Windle, presiding, offered the guests welcome on behalf of one of the oldest libraries of its kind in the kingdom, founded by the distinguished Dr. Priestley. Mr. Crunden, replying, said that Americans looked with pride upon the triumphs of England, and, as a matter of reciprocity, the mother-country should take credit for whatever the children did. Dr. Nolan, of Philadelphia, seconded his remarks, and Mr. Bowker, speaking for the visitors, gave the toast of the Queen, which was seconded by all joining in the national anthem. Consul Parker, who has done excellent service in Birmingham as a literary as well as an official representative, also spoke. Mr. Andrews, of Chicago, proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Windle and the committee, and Mr. J. Thackeray Bunce, of the committee, spoke pleasantly, saying that Englishmen envied the magnificent way in which the United States had founded state and other libraries. He added that nowhere in England were Americans more welcome than in Birmingham, referring especially to Holmes, Lowell, and Bayard Taylor. Whatever some people might try to make out, we were one nation once and we are one nation at heart now.

In the evening some of the party visited Consul Parker at his home, and others drove to one of the charming historic houses of the vicinity, to which a cordial invitation had been given.

IN THE WARWICKSHIRE COUNTRY.

On Saturday morning, July 10, the visitors started by an early train for Kenilworth, where, after visiting the lovely ruins, so associated in library minds with Sir Walter Scott, coaches were taken for that most delightful of drives past Guy's Cliff and the old mill to Warwick Castle, where the house and gardens were fully enjoyed, and through Warwick to the home of Shakespeare, Mr. Chivers having most wisely rearranged the plans so as to spend Sunday at Stratford instead of at Leamington. A visit was made in the late afternoon to the Shakespeare birth-house, after which Mrs. Charles Flower exemplified the hospitality and generosity associated in Stratford with that name by a charming afternoon tea and garden-party at her delightful residence close by. Thence the party passed on to the Memorial Building, where they were formally welcomed by the Mayor and shown through the gallery and library.

On Sunday morning many of the party drove and others walked to Ann Hathaway's cottage at Shottery, and there was a general gathering at the morning service in Shakespeare's church, the picturesque Holy Trinity by the riverside, where his bones lie undisturbed. The Bishop of Cairo, Ill., preached the sermon, and after the service called the American party together at the chancel and held the simple service of thanksgiving for their escape from the dangers of the great deep.

It is a fitting rule of Vicar Arbuthnot that sightseeing shall not be permitted on Sunday, but in view of this visit of American librarians he not only allowed an exception to the rule, but himself guided the party through the church and gave a most interesting series of talks here and there, covering all the features of interest. Particularly the visitors were interested in the modern stained-glass window which is to commemorate the church-relationship and the book-relationship of England and America, and it is hoped by the visiting party that it may be practicable to arrange through librarians for completing the American panels which are yet to be filled. Afterwards the visitors, guided by Mr. and Mrs. Ward, were shown through King Edward's School, where Shakespeare was a pupil, and the old Guildhall, in which the lad probably saw his first play, the headmaster, as host, giving a most informing and entertaining talk. After dinner and an hour of rest, the visitors drove out to Clopton Hall, an interesting old mansion, where Sir Arthur Hodgson received them courteously, and had them shown through the house and grounds. Some of the party enjoyed at sunset, under the guidance of Mr. Richard Savage, the bibliographer of Shakespeare and custodian of the library, a walk to "the bank where the wild thyme grows," while others sought rest in what remained of a busy Sunday. In the morning, after a second visit to the Memorial Building, the pilgrims journeyed to London, where most of the party found the quarters assigned to them in the Inns of Court Hotel, their headquarters during the conference.

LONDON — THE GUILDHALL RECEPTION.

The international conference was fittingly prefaced by a reception at the Guildhall of the City of London, where for the first time the English hosts, the American visitors, and the representatives from the colonies and from other countries first had opportunity of making one another's acquaintance, the Guildhall being at once the centre of civic government and of art and literature for the city of London. In the necessary absence of Sir John Lubbock, the visitors were received by Dr. Richard Garnett, as president of the Bibliographical Society and representative of the L. A. U. K. committee, and after his informal welcome took their choice among the "triple bill" of entertainments provided for them. Many found their way to the Guildhall library, where the feature of the evening was Dr. Garnett's interesting paper on "The introduction of European printing in the east," read here instead of in the conference session, but summarized elsewhere at its place on the regular program. Others enjoyed the vocal music in the reception hall, or the extraordinary variety entertainment provided by the Savage Club, whose members, impressing Lord Crawford into the chair, told stories or sang songs to a throng which overflowed the modern and beautiful rotunda of the council room. Still others accepted the hospitality of the wonderful Victorian exhibit of paintings, shown in the Guildhall art gal-

leries, an exhibition already visited at that time by over 200,000 people; or looked over the various library exhibits which were shown in the Guildhall proper, with the dim forms of Gog and Magog presiding from above. With literature, music, and art, a pleasant evening was quickly passed, and though the attractions were too various and absorbing for much new personal acquaintanceship, many greetings were exchanged among old friends, and it was agreed that the social opening of the conference was most auspicious.

LONDON FESTIVITIES.

The opening of the conference is described elsewhere, but a word should be said as to the interesting place of meeting. By courtesy of the Lord Mayor and the committee of the council, Guildhall was practically given up to the conference during most of the week. Except during one day, on which the council itself met in its chamber, the meetings were held in the noble rotunda, which had been built of recent years as a worthy home for the civic court of the greatest city in the world. The circular rows of seats, with their ingenious desk devices, worthy of the Library Bureau, brought the audience into close touch with the readers and speakers, and every one present felt the inspiration of the noble hall. There was seating room for about 500 people. At the first session the place was more than crowded, and thereafter there was a good attendance throughout. On one day the meeting was held in the former council chamber, where the old-fashioned arrangements were in curious contrast with the new hall, and here accommodations were rather lacking for the large attendance. Arrangement had been made for the service of luncheon each day, at moderate prices, in the room below the council chamber; a writing-room was provided for the delegates; the efficient secretaries and assistant secretaries were always ready to answer all manner of questions and do all sorts of pleasant things at their headquarters in the library; and altogether nothing was left undone for the comfort and convenience of the visitors. The felicitous and humorous remarks of the Lord Mayor, the excellent address of Sir John Lubbock, the happily-phrased remarks of Mr. MacAlister, and other incidents at the start, gave excellent tone for the meeting, and, happily, the first paper led to a discussion in which so many took part that the ice was at once broke and the standard was set for the discussions thereafter. Each day the conference kept at work pretty steadily from early in the morning until four in the afternoon, except that many of the visitors could not resist taking advantage of their first opportunity to see the sights of London.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, July 13, a reception was given at Sion College, on the Victoria Embankment, where the ancient library which is really the college, in its noble hall, was shown and some of its treasures displayed by the librarians, Rev. W. H. Milman and Mr. Guffy, who had prepared a special catalog for the exhibit, while a pleasant program of

vocal music was given in the rooms below, with afternoon tea conveniently adjacent. In the evening one of the grand functions of London was given in the Mansion House, where the Lord Mayor, in his robes, attended by the Mace- and Sword-bearers, received the visitors in state, and where they were entertained afterwards by an orchestral concert, by vocal music, and by a collation.

Wednesday afternoon was notable for the charming garden-party given by the Marchioness of Bute, in the lovely gardens of St. James' Lodge, in the inner circle of Regent's Park. The beautiful house was thrown open to visitors, and after receiving her guests on the lawn the Marchioness had provided a fine orchestral entertainment on the terrace, with the ever-present afternoon tea and "light refreshments." Situated in the heart of the great expanse of Regent's Park, this estate, leased from the crown, combines the advantages and beauties of city and country, and perhaps no feature of the week's entertainment was more enjoyed by the guests. In the evening Sir John and Lady Lubbock gave a reception in their town house on St. James' Square, and their spacious and pleasant rooms were thronged from 10 o'clock till midnight.

Thursday afternoon was given up to visits to the great houses of London, which had thrown their doors wide open for the guests of the week. The first visit of most of the party was at Brook House, Park Lane, where Lord and Lady Tweedmouth were ready to receive them and to show the treasures of the interesting collection of books there gathered, the chief of which were spread out for ready inspection. After that came the Duke of Westminster's town residence, Grosvenor House, in Upper Grosvenor street, where the wonderful collection of pictures, Gainsborough's "Blue boy," the well-known Rembrandts, etc., and the charming rooms were enjoyed to the full, and where also a bounteous collation was served. The afternoon was rounded out by a visit to Apsley House, Piccadilly, the home of the Duke of Wellington, where the visitors were shown the museum-room, which contains the wonderful collections of orders, swords, etc., of the great founder of the house, and where they shuffled through the grand salons, to their amusement and edification, in the felt slippers provided for visitors.

In the evening 500 guests enjoyed the unparalleled hospitality of Sir Henry Irving at the Lyceum theatre. Sir Henry had not only put his theatre practically at the service of the committee of the conference, assigning for the use of its members 500 of the best seats in the house, the entire dress portion, but he had for the evening replaced "Madame Sans-Gêne," which had been running throughout the season, with one of his great Shakespearian productions, fittingly selecting "The merchant of Venice" for the purpose. The library party thoroughly appreciated this compliment, with all that it meant, and no hospitality in the whole series of events called forth more universal and hearty expressions of indebtedness.

Under the inspiration of their own hospitality and in the presence of so many literary guests Sir Henry Irving and his associate, Miss Terry, in the parts of *Shylock* and of *Portia*, acted at their best, and the whole company was moved with the same spirit. During the play a wreath was presented by the visitors to Miss Terry, as the queen of the dramatic profession, and at the close of the play a number, at the invitation of Sir Henry, met him in the green-room and took advantage of the occasion to present their thanks for the party.

Friday afternoon the most interesting feature was the visit to Lambeth Palace and its ancient library across the Thames, where every one was delighted to enjoy the odor of sanctity and of antiquity associated with the old palace, and profited by the interesting explanatory talk made by the librarian in the chapel of so many memories. Some visited the Duke of Sutherland's town residence, Stafford House, St. James, and others who had not been at Apsley House the previous day took occasion to accept the generous invitation of the Duke of Westminster, which extended over both afternoons. But many were forced to deny themselves these later opportunities in their desire not to miss the opening of the conference dinner.

This took place Friday evening in one of the grand banqueting-rooms of the new Hotel Cecil, which claims to be the largest as well as the most sumptuous hotel in the world. The menu design was from the pencil of Mr. Herbert Jones, of the Guildhall Library, and represented a bookshelf corner in which stood a library nymph writing place and date on a scroll—rather larger than the standard L. B. card. Below was a great folio, upon which was a vignette of London and the title-page, "The Second International Library Conference, London, 1897." Above were the shields of the United States and Great Britain, with the motto:

"With heed to these the wise man looks—
His wife, his dinner, and his books."

During the evening an interesting program of music was played by the band of the Royal Artillery. Sir John Lubbock presided, and gave the toasts of "The Queen," "The Prince of Wales and the royal family," and "The Right Hon. Lord Mayor and the Corporation"; the latter being replied to by Charles Welch, librarian of the Guildhall Library, in a bright speech. Dr. Garnett proposed the health of "The ladies and gentlemen who have entertained the conference," emphasizing especially the unprecedented generosity of Sir Henry Irving, and a response was made in a most clever and witty speech by Bram Stoker, Sir Henry's manager and personal representative, who has also, as a novelist, close relations with book people. The Earl of Crawford proposed the health of "The president of the conference," in a simple and fitting speech, to which Sir John Lubbock responded, expressing his great pleasure in, and indebtedness for, the opportunity of presiding over so remarkable a gathering. Mr. Tedder gave the toast of "The American Library Association" in a pleasant

speech, mentioning many of the leading American visitors by name, and Mr. Dewey made a happy response. The health of "The foreign delegates" was proposed by Mr. MacAlister in graceful phrase, and was responded to in English by Prof. Comm. Guido Biagi, of Italy, who aroused great enthusiasm by his few but inspiring words. Dr. Winsor, as president of the American Library Association, proposed the toast of "The Library Association of the United Kingdom," to which Alderman Rawson, of Manchester, president of the L. A. U. K., made pleasant response, and "The Executive Committee of the conference" was toasted by Sir William Bailey in one of his witty speeches, and called forth responses from Mr. Borrajo and Mr. Herbert Jones. To Mr. Crunden fell the graceful duty of proposing the health of "The ladies," which he did in a pleasing speech, that was also a farewell to the London hosts, and in reply Miss Hewins made a charming little talk, saying that, like the little girl who, when asked her age, said that she was six years old, but judging from the good times she'd had she must be a hundred, the visitors felt as though they had spent not a week in London, but many months. She then yielded the floor to Miss James, who, as vice-president of the American Library Association, should make the response, although she had endeavored to evade the responsibility. Miss James, thus called to her feet, made a happy extemporaneous response, which called forth fresh expressions of delight in the ready speech of the American women representatives, and after a volunteered speech from another speaker, who rose to the occasion, the delightful dinner came to an end.

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Under the inspiration of their own hospitality and in the presence of so many literary guests Sir Henry Irving and his associate, Miss Terry, in the parts of *Skylock* and of *Portia*, acted at their best, and the whole company was moved with the same spirit. During the play a wreath was presented by the visitors to Miss Terry, as the queen of the dramatic profession, and at the close of the play a number, at the invitation of Sir Henry, met him in the green-room and took advantage of the occasion to present their thanks for the party.

Friday afternoon the most interesting feature was the visit to Lambeth Palace and its ancient library across the Thames, where every one was delighted to enjoy the odor of sanctity and of antiquity associated with the old palace, and profited by the interesting explanatory talk made by the librarian in the chapel of so many memories. Some visited the Duke of Sutherland's town residence, Stafford House, St. James, and others who had not been at Apsley House the previous day took occasion to accept the generous invitation of the Duke of Westminster, which extended over both afternoons. But many were forced to deny themselves these later opportunities in their desire not to miss the opening of the conference dinner.

This took place Friday evening in one of the grand banqueting-rooms of the new Hotel Cecil, which claims to be the largest as well as the most sumptuous hotel in the world. The menu design was from the pencil of Mr. Herbert Jones, of the Guildhall Library, and represented a bookshelf corner in which stood a library nymph writing place and date on a scroll—rather larger than the standard L. B. card. Below was a great folio, upon which was a vignette of London and the title-page, "The Second International Library Conference, London, 1897." Above were the shields of the United States and Great Britain, with the motto:

"With heed to these the wise man looks—
His wife, his dinner, and his books."

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been given up for the purpose, for luncheon at the personal hospitality of the mayor. After the repast, in which Devonshire clotted cream was an interesting feature, Mayor Radford called upon the Plymouth librarian, Mr. Wright, to propose the toast of "Our guests," which he did in a bright speech, summarizing Plymouth's history. Mr. Dewey, responding for the Americans, said that, as electric currents found their way back by the earth to their origin, so when people wandered over the world they turned instinctively back to the old home. Sir William Windeyer, for the Colonials, spoke of the great and glorious memories of English history, which is as dear to those as in the colonies as to the English themselves; and Miss James, for the lady visitors, said that she was glad to stand on the historic spot from which six of her ancestors sailed in the *Mayflower*. She told of a little girl, who asked an elder whether she would rather be two little girls or one old lady, and said that although she was content to be the latter, there were times when thinking of the great opportunities before librarians in the future, she almost wished to be two little girls growing up to be librarians in the better day coming. Mr. Bowker gave the toast of "Our hosts," coupling with it the names of Mayor Radford, Admiral Fremantle, and Mr. Varnier of the reception committee. He spoke of the links between old Plymouth and the new country, and of one especial link between the guests and the old town. Librarians belong to a profession which has to do with the building of character; Plymouth had always exported character and had plenty left, and it was no chance which associated the great naval power of England with this famous harbor, because what Plymouth and the English navy stood for was the development of character. In the great house of the mother-country, somehow the visitors felt that Plymouth was the home-room, the room of all others where the mother-spirit dwelt, and with that memory they should keep Plymouth in their hearts. The mayor, in responding, emphasized his pleasure in learning the position of women in the library calling in America; Admiral Fremantle gave earnest of hospitality for the morrow; and Mr. Varnier spoke pleasantly for the reception committee.

Leaving the Corn Exchange, the visitors walked through the old streets of Plymouth, known to the pilgrim fathers, gathered at the Barbican round the *Mayflower* memorial stone, and at the corporation pier embarked on the boat for the trip through the harbor and the enjoyable visit to the beautiful grounds of Mt. Edgecombe, and afterward up the Tamar to Cotehele, also at the invitation of the Earl of Mt. Edgecombe, where that most interesting Elizabethan residence was shown by the earl's caretakers. Tea was served on the run up the river, and water in plentiful showers on the way back, but nothing could dampen the spirits of the excursionists, and again they curbed their appetites until 10 o'clock dinner.

On Wednesday, July 21, the party went direct to the quay and embarked on the harbor

steamer for the naval visit. Admiral Sir E. R. Fremantle personally acted as host, and with his flag officer accompanied the visitors throughout the trip. They were received first on the training ship *Defiance*, where a most interesting talk on torpedo warfare was made by the senior officer in one of the lecture-rooms, and from the deck of which the visitors witnessed first the firing of a torpedo and afterward the explosion of a mine in the harbor, both novel entertainments being arranged especially for their edification. The party also arranged visited the Keyham Dockyard, passed near enough to the Devonport yard to get a general view, and were also received on the superb cruiser *Renown*, where parties were taken through every part of the ship under the guidance of midshipmite hosts. This unusual official entertainment was thoroughly appreciated, and not the less because there was no speechmaking to express it.

On returning from the *Renown*, luncheon was served at the Corn Exchange, Alderman J. T. Greek Wills, chairman of the library committee, who were the hosts, being in the chair. A few short speeches were made by Sir William Windeyer, Mr. Crunden, Mr. Dewey, Mr. Lane, and Mr. J. P. Lake, turning largely on the enormity of a war between the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race. Mr. Crunden ended by proposing the health of the borough librarian, Mr. Wright, to whom the chairman had declared that the success of the visit was due. Mr. Crunden expressed his pleasure at seeing a man not engaged in money-making, and having no chance of coming to the front as a citizen from his worldly position, yet valued and accepted as a leading man on account of his good work and his worth. Guildhall was then visited, where Mr. Wright explained the painted glass windows in the presence of the designer and maker, Mr. J. T. Fouracre. A visit to St. Andrew's Church completed the official program. In the evening the majority of the party sought an early and much-needed rest. A few accepted the hospitality of the Casino on the pier or of the Royal theatre, where they saw with huge delight the murder, abduction, fight with the police, burglary, chase over the roofs, and feats of a female Hercules, sensations which, served up in the form of a novel, few of the librarians would have dared to present to their readers.

BATH.

It is a long but pleasant ride from Plymouth to Bath. On the way there are glimpses of the red sandstone cliffs of Dawlish, of the edge of the Lorna Doone country, and of the beautiful spire of St. Mary Radcliffe at Bristol. The party was received at a luncheon given by the Mayor of Bath, but owing to a death in his family ex-Mayor Rubie presided. Councillor J. W. Morris toasted "The International Library Congress," and dilated upon literature as a greater bond of union than even our common race or our common language. Mr. Dewey spoke of the importance attached to libraries in America, the great sums given them, and of knowledge as enlarging and enriching life. Mr. Crunden

spoke of the pleasure which literary associations give to Americans travelling in England, to whom the characters of Thackeray and Dickens are as real as personages in history. He complimented Bath on its wealth of literary associations, and touched upon the influence of libraries in favor of peace and good-will. To Mr. Austin King's toast, "Women in library and literary work," Miss James replied briefly, and Miss Florence Hayward at length. Miss James was surprised to find so few female librarians in England. If a woman could be the best sovereign in the world why could not the women of England make the best librarians in the world? Miss Hayward was proud of the important position women librarians had taken. It proved that women had certain traits, the possession of which had often been denied them—capacity for detail, work, and logic. After lunch the company visited the Roman baths, guided by the city architect, Major C. E. Davis. At the Abbey, Canon Quirk acted as *cicerone*. At seven the party were driven to places of interest through the city.

The next day the party drove eight miles to Bradford in charge of Mr. Councillor Morris, who all the way poured forth a stream of antiquarian lore and good stories. Of the beauty of the typical English landscape in the varying lights of a half-cloudy day, it is impossible to convey any idea. The visitors climbed to Rowas Lodge, the seat of Austin King, Esq., whence, after lunch on the lawn, they went to Winsley Hill, flushing partridges and gathering wild flowers by the way. There is a view thence for miles of the country where King Alfred gained his victories over the Danes. Mr. Councillor Morris, in an eloquent address, told the story of the fights, and pointed out the consequences to England's history. Next the party came to Major Davis's quaint house, built in the reign of Henry VII. At Bradford he showed them the well-preserved Saxon church, the oldest seen in the whole journey, most interesting in its solid simplicity, which he had discovered when built around with stables and storehouses and half buried. Another lunch was spread on the lawn of The Hall (formerly Kingston House), seat of Mr. Moulton, a fine Elizabethan mansion, rescued by the owner's father from the ruin into which its use as a weaving-mill had brought it.

OXFORD.

A hot railroad ride, brought the party on Friday, July 22, to Oxford. Bodley's librarian, Mr. Nicholson, gave a reception at the Examination schools, where, as soon as the ice was broken that at first separated the visitors from the dons and their wives, a most lively and enjoyable evening followed. Of the next day, suffice it to say that the visitors rushed through the Bodleian, the Museum, and five colleges in the morning, and five colleges and the Cathedral in the afternoon. The treasures of the Bodleian, the gardens of Wadham, the interesting talk of Sir Henry Acland at the Museum, the windows of Balliol, the chapel and hall of New, the young deer in the park of Magdalen, the lovely painted

windows in the library of Merton, the paintings and drawings of old masters in the library of Christ Church, the Burne-Jones windows in the Cathedral impressed themselves deeply even upon jaded minds. The welcome rest of Sunday restored their powers, and Monday saw the temporary dispersion of the party.

AMERICANS PRESENT AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

- Ahern, Miss M. E., *Public Libraries*, Library Bureau, Chicago.
- Ames, Miss Harriet H., Hoyt Library, East Saginaw, Mich.
- Andrews, Clement W., librarian John Crerar Library, Chicago.
- Barton, Edmund M., librarian American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, Mass.
- Barton, Mrs. Edmund M., Worcester, Mass.
- Birtwell, Miss Mary L., Associated Charities, Cambridge, Mass.
- Biscoe, Walter S., New York State Library.
- Biscoe, Miss Alice M.
- Biscoe, Miss Ellen D.
- Biscoe, Miss Lucy W.
- *Bowker, R. R., *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, New York.
- Brinkerhoff, Adelaide, Mansfield, O.
- Brown, Dr. Francis H., Boston.
- Brown, Mrs. Francis H., Boston.
- Brown, Miss Edith, Boston.
- Browne, Miss Nina E., Publishing Section A. L. A., Boston.
- Chase, Frederick A., City Library, Lowell, Mass.
- Clark, Miss Elizabeth R., University of Nashville, Tenn.
- Cole, George W., late librarian Jersey City Public Library.
- Conant, Miss Marjory, Boston.
- *Crunden, Frederick M., librarian Public Library, St. Louis.
- Crunden, Frank D., St. Louis, Mo.
- Curran, Mrs. M. H., librarian Public Library, Bangor, Me.
- *Cutter, Charles Ammi, librarian Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.
- Davis, Miss Mary L., Pratt Institute Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- De Vinne, Theodore L., New York.
- *Dewey, Melvil, director New York State Library; delegated by the U. S. Government.
- Dunn, Mrs. W. T., Worcester, Mass.
- Eakins, William George, librarian Law Society of Upper Canada, Toronto.
- Field, Mrs. Fanny, Avondale, Cincinnati, O.
- Fowler, Miss Mary, Cornell University Library.
- Francis, Miss Mary, Hartford, Ct.
- Gliddon, de Putron, Public Library, Butte, Mont.
- *Gould, C. H., librarian McGill University Library, Montreal.
- Green, Miss Margaret, Cambridge, Mass.
- Hawley, Miss M. E., New York State Library.
- Hewins, Miss Caroline M., librarian Public Library, Hartford, Ct.
- Hill, Frank P., librarian Public Library, Newark, N. J.
- Hill, Mrs. Frank P., Newark, N. J.
- Hills, W. J., Public Library, Bridgeport, Ct.

* indicates vice-presidents of the conference.

- Hull, Miss Fanny, librarian Union for Christian Work, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Hutchinson, Charles H., Athenæum, Philadelphia.
 *James, Miss Hannah P., librarian Osterhout Free Library, Wilkes Barre, Pa.
 Jenks, Henry A., Canton, Mass.
 Jenks, Rev. Henry S., trustee Public Library, Canton, Mass.
 *Jones, Gardner M., librarian Public Library, Salem, Mass.
 Jones, Mrs. Gardner M., Salem, Mass.
 Jones, Mary L., University of Illinois.
 Keating, Miss Geraldine, Rockville, Ct.
 Lane, ——— Boston.
 Lane, Mrs. Lucius P., Boston.
 *Lane, W. Coolidge, librarian Athenæum, Boston.
 *Langton, H. H., librarian University of Toronto.
 Le Crone, Miss Anna L., librarian Public Library, Champaign, Ill.
 Lee, Miss Venie J., University of Nashville, Tenn.
 McCrory, Miss Harriette L., librarian State Normal School, Millersville, Pa.
 Mann, Miss Frances M., librarian Public Library, Dedham, Mass.
 Monfort, E. M., librarian Public Library, Marietta, O.
 Nolan, Edward J., M.D., librarian Academy of Natural sciences, Philadelphia.
 Noyes, James, Athens, N. Y.
 Noyes, Mrs. Penelope, Athens, N. Y.
 Phillips, Miss Mary E., librarian Public Library, Oneonta, N. Y.
 *Putnam, Herbert, librarian Public Library, Boston; delegated by the U. S. Government.
 Robertson, J. P., librarian Manitoba Legislative Library, Winnipeg.
 Robinson, Christopher, Toronto.
 Sharp, Miss Katherine L., Armour Institute, Chicago.
 Shaw, Miss Sybil, Woburn, Mass.
 Sheldon, Miss Helen G., Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.
 Southworth, Mrs. Myra F., librarian Public Library, Brockton, Mass.
 Speck, Miss Celeste, Public Library, St. Louis, Mo.
 Sperry, Miss Ethel M., Waterbury, Ct.
 Sperry, Miss Helen, librarian Carnegie Library, Braddock, Pa.
 Stechert, Gustav E., New York.
 Steiner, Dr. Bernard C., librarian Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore.
 Stevenson, W. M., librarian Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny, Pa.
 Thompson, Leonard, trustee Corporation Library, Woburn, Mass.
 Thorburn, John, librarian Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa.
 Thurston, Miss Elizabeth P., librarian Free Library, Newton, Mass.
 Tredway, Miss Mary, St. Louis, Mo.
 Utley, H. M., librarian Public Library, Detroit, Mich.
 Utley, Mrs. H. M., Detroit, Mich.
 Van Vliet, Miss Jessie, Armour Institute, Chicago.
 Walker, Miss Harriet A., Wellesley College, Wellesley, Mass.
 Wheeler, Miss Anna, Albany, N. Y.
 Wheeler, Miss Martha T., New York State Library.
 Whitney, James Lyman, Public Library, Boston, Mass.
 Whitney, Miss Margaret Dwight, Pratt Institute Library School, Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Wildman, Miss Gertrude, Athenæum, Boston.
 Wildman, Miss Linda, Boston.
 Winship, George Parker, librarian John Carter Brown Library, Providence, R. I.
 *Winsor, Justin, librarian Harvard University Library; delegated by the U. S. government.
 Winsor, Mrs. Justin, Cambridge, Mass.
 Wright, Miss C. D., Canton, Mass.

State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIVISION, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT STATE L. COMMISSION. Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Free Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison, Wis.

THE Wisconsin commission is arranging for section meetings throughout the state, with special reference to the travelling library movement. One has been planned for Oct. 1-2, at Grand Rapids, and others will be held as follows: Oct. 22-23, Menomonie; Nov. 12-13, Eau Claire; Dec. 10-12, Ashland. Others will be arranged for later in the year. Many of the Wisconsin libraries are in need of new buildings, and the officers of the commission have arranged for illustrated lectures on library buildings in small towns, to be delivered in these places, with stereopticon views of interiors and exteriors of libraries. Another lecture for which plans are now being made is devoted to travelling libraries. This will be illustrated with views of the stations and small settlements where the libraries have been so much appreciated, and will be delivered in the largest cities of the state, for the purpose of obtaining gifts of magazines and books to send to the lumber towns in the northern part of the state.

The commission has issued a revised edition of its excellent handbook, brought closely up to date, and full of practical and compact information and advice for the libraries of the state, and of almost equal usefulness to small libraries elsewhere. Its several appendixes, giving short lists of aids in library economy, aids in selecting books, etc., are especially excellent.

* indicates vice-presidents of the conference.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

THE PUBLIC AND ITS PUBLIC LIBRARY. In the *Popular Science Monthly* for June Mr. J. C. Dana has an article on "The public and its public library" that should be read by all who have to do with libraries. In several respects it takes up the lines of his address made at the Cleveland conference as president of the A. L. A., being based upon the premise that the library, supported by the public on compulsion, must be first, last, and always an instrument of public good if its existence is to be justified. The keynote is struck in this sentence:

"The public owns its public library. This fact sheds much light on the question of library management. It means that the public library must be fitted to public needs. It must suit its community. It must do the maximum of work at the minimum of expense. It must be an economical educational machine. It must give pleasure, for only where pleasure is is any profit taken. It must change in its manner of administration with the new time, the new relations of books to men and of men to books. It need not altogether forget the bookworm or the belated historian, and it can take note here and there of the lover of the dodo and the freaks among printed things. But its prime purpose is to place the right books in the proper hands, to get the more joyful and wise thoughts into the minds of the owners. The means of its support are taken by force from the pockets of the competent and provident; this fact should never be lost sight of. It lives, in a measure, by the sword. It can justify itself in this manner of securing its support only by putting into practice the familiar theory that the state, would it insure its own continuance, must see that all its citizens have access to the stores, in books, of knowledge and wisdom. It must be open to its public; it must invite its public—all to the end that it may educate its public."

Free access to the books, as the first great requisite in making a public library really a library for the public; a library building that shall permit this access in all departments, and the greatest possible freedom in all details of library use, are the main heads of Mr. Dana's argument, which is presented with all his characteristic terseness, lucidity, and force.

LOCAL.

Alameda (Cal.) P. L. (18th rpt.—year ending May 31, '97.) Added 1661; total 22,077. Issued, home use 123,274 (fict. 65,510); teachers' and class use 2700. Receipts \$10,187.45; expenses \$8553.95.

At this year's (1897) commencement exercises of the public schools, medals were offered for the best compositions by a boy and girl on "The library as an adjunct of the public schools." The prizes were awarded June 7, and the compositions were printed in one of the local dailies. Mr. Harbourne writes: "Recognizing the fact that these essays were writ-

ten by children not over 14 years of age, it strikes me that they are beginning early to have a proper conception of the uses of the public library."

Augusta, Ga. Y. M. L. A. At a meeting of the directors held July 8, it was decided to establish, as soon as possible, a children's department.

Berkeley (Cal.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 560; total 5236. Issued, home use 24,631 (fict. 74 %); attendance at lib. 90,075. Expenses \$3987.16.

Boston P. L. (45th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, '97.) The reports of individual libraries are often the most valuable contributions to the general literature of library economy. This fact finds ample proof each year, and it is now emphasized again by the appearance of the report of the Boston Public Library for 1896. Any summary of this report within necessary limits must be inadequate, and it should be read as a whole by librarians, who will find it one of the most suggestive and interesting of recent library documents. As usual, it is a detailed record, including the preliminary summary by the trustees, the full report of Mr. Putnam, and the suggestive report of the examining committee, with appendixes covering elaborate statistics of contents, circulation and use of the library and its branches.

The statistics may be summarized as follows: Added 33,468; total 663,763, of which 488,227 are in the central library. Issued, home use 1,005,019, of which 678,765 were issued through the 14 branches, 12 delivery stations, and 13 engine-houses, the latter receiving monthly deposits of 25 v. each. 8047 v. were issued on teachers' cards. Cards in use 45,606, as against 34,842 on Feb. 1, 1896. The percentage of cardholders to population is .0917. Receipts \$272,842.87; expenses \$243,366.81, the balance of \$29,476.08 being "largely income from trust funds, restricted to the purchase of books, and not to be used for other purposes." The total expenditures for books and periodicals was \$40,430.23, and the increase in general expenditures over the preceding year was \$22,917.28.

Considerable space is given to the work of the branches and delivery stations, which has been largely extended by the more general use of the "deposit" system, by which deposits of about 300 v. are sent to each station, placed on open shelves and circulated directly from the station. The circulation for home use shows a gain of 18 % over the previous year, much of this being the direct effect of the branches and stations. In discussing this branch use, Mr. Putnam points out that the present method, by which custodians of stations are paid in proportion to the number of books circulated, makes it to the interest of the custodian to encourage the reading of light literature and thus interferes with the main purpose of the deposit system—the raising of the character of reading by making books of serious importance directly accessible. He suggests that a solution of the difficulty might be to pay custodians

one rate of compensation for fiction and a higher rate for other literature.

The loss of books during the year deserves consideration. From the Bates Hall reference shelves but 38 v. have been missed out of over 7000 freely accessible, and those lost are of "relatively insignificant value." Of the 90,000 accessible v. on the special libraries floor, 77 were unaccounted for; of the 5000 v. in the patent library, none were missing; but those lost from the children's-room numbered several hundred, and 249 v. have been missed from the branches since the introduction of open shelves, while the arrest of one adult book-thief with 27 v. in his possession, and of six juvenile thieves with 21 books in their possession, shows that a percentage of the missing books must be set down as stolen. Mr. Putnam says: "Of course, the books stolen are of a class easily replaced at no great cost, but the total of loss is large enough, I fear, to be quoted to the discredit of open shelves. I am entirely unwilling to admit that it touches the principle of open shelves."

During the year 63 books were loaned to other libraries in the state upon special application, a system of blanks for conducting inter-library loans having been devised in May. In the central library 50,794 v. were cataloged, 8145 v. and 3416 pamphlets were bound in the library bindery, exclusive of repairing and miscellaneous work.

The report of the examining committee is of special interest, in its practical suggestions regarding the children's-room, the branches, and the delivery-room. The lack of space already apparent at Bates Hall makes some more adequate reading-room provision necessary, and the committee recommend the use of the space now devoted to the courtyard for this purpose.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. At a meeting of the directors held July 21, it was announced that the board of estimate had appropriated \$5000 for the immediate use of the library. The committee on sites was authorized to select a building for temporary headquarters and to serve as a public library and reading-room for the immediate future.

Burlington (Ia.) F. P. L. (11th rpt. — year ending May 31, '97.) Added 730; total 16,087. Issued, home use 53,166 (fict. 31,073); estimated attendance in reading-room 15,440. New registration 598; total cardholders 3408.

The new building is rapidly nearing completion.

Council Bluffs (Ia.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '97.) Added 546; total 20,789. Issued 81,092; visitors to lib. 104,765. Receipts \$6460.43; expenses \$4754.33.

Edgewood (R. I.) F. P. L. A. The association have accepted plans for a new library building, on which work will shortly begin. It is to be a one-story building, 25 x 40 feet, of wood and rough exterior plastering, and will cost about \$1200. The library association was formed about two years ago, and has been most successful in its work.

Eldora (Ia.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending June 30, '97.) Added 90; total 2000. Issued 4904; visitors to lib. 9171. Receipts \$533.83; expenses \$532.58.

Ilion (N. Y.) F. P. L. (4th rpt. — year ending May 1, '97.) Added 482; total 9170. Issued, home use 41,886 (fict. 19,680, juv. 11,473). New registration 568; total registration 2329; teachers taking extra cards 20. Receipts \$2279.94; expenses \$2178.

"The wisdom of the policy adopted at the outset admitting children of all ages to the enjoyment of the books is apparent. No statistics of the use of the reference department have been kept until the last three months. The number registered during this time has been at the rate of 650 per month." Since the last report a complete catalog — author, title, and subject — has been finished and installed.

Iowa State Univ. L., Iowa City. The legislature on July 1 refused to levy a special tax for a new library building to replace that recently destroyed by fire. The proposition was overwhelmingly defeated. The university regents declined to accept any other provision, preferring to renew the campaign at the next session, and the matter was dropped for the present.

Kankakee (Ill.) P. L. The Ladies' Library Association on July 6 agreed to transfer a bequest of \$5000, left them some years ago by George V. Heuling, to the public library as an addition to the building fund; they will also make over to the library the 10,000 v. owned by their organization. This will be increased by \$10,000 appropriated by the city and private gifts. The movement for a library building is hardly a month old. It was started June 16, when Frederick Swannell gave to the city a \$5000 lot near the city hall, to be the site of a library building, and it has been pushed with such vigor that it is thought that the \$20,000 building planned will be completed within a few months. The plans have already been secured. The library itself was started a little over a year ago, and has had general public appreciation.

Manchester, Vt. Mark Skinner L. The library, which was dedicated on July 7, is a gift to Manchester from Mrs. Henry Willing, of Chicago, in memory of her father. Its estimated cost is \$50,000. The building is of pressed brick, with stone trimmings and a tiled roof. Its interior fitting and finishing are rich and tasteful, and it starts work with 10,000 v. Among the books are a large number of volumes from Judge Skinner's fine private library, and an original set of Kingsborough's "Mexican antiquities." A feature of the library will be the collection and preservation of books and documents relating to the early history of Manchester and surrounding towns, also of Vermont and New England. Arrangements will also be made for branches or stations in the outlying districts.

Matunuck, R. I. Hale Memorial L. The Robert Beverly Hale Memorial Library building was dedicated on June 26, the chief address being made by Dr. Edward Everett Hale. The building, which according to the memorial inscription was built "by the friends of Robert Beverly Hale," is a one-story structure, of wood, with a stone foundation. A short flight of steps leads to a square piazza, whose sloping roof is formed by a continuation of the sloping roof of the building. Curved seats are fitted to the sides of the piazza, which is finished in hard wood, the seats, door, and some parts being painted a dark green. The massive door at the entrance has a large window in the upper half. Small single panes, set one above another, form side lights for the hall, which is five by eight feet in size. A coat-room at the right and store-room at the left open from the hall, and are lighted by windows from the front. Directly opposite the main entrance double doors lead into the library, which is 22 feet square. Opposite the doors is an open fireplace fitted with brass and irons. The woodwork is highly polished oak, and there is a stationary seat against the wall on each side of the fireplace. The walls are terra-cotta, the ceiling is buff with a pink tone, divided into large panels by the polished oak beams. Shelves run around the entire room, broken only by chimney, doors, and a bay window on the west, built of Milford granite and fitted with windows composed of diamond-shaped panes set in lead. On the east side, directly opposite, is a broad window, also of diamond-shaped panes, above the book-shelves. About 2000 books, presented by friends, are now in the library.

New York F. C. L. for the Blind. (2d rpt. — March, 1897.) "The advancement made during the past year is most gratifying. From the small beginning of a library containing but 60 v. we have between 400 and 500 v. In addition the association has purchased selections of music for the organ, piano, guitar, and violin, arranged for the use of the blind. The library was formally opened Nov. 9, 1896. The books have been eagerly sought, and the demand for them is increasing. 200 v. have been purchased and 246 have been donated. The association has been duly registered by the University of the State of New York." The library occupies a room in the parish house of St. Agnes' Church, 121 W. 91st street. It is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

New York. Harlem L. On July 20 the trustees decided that on and after September 1 the library shall be conducted as a free circulating library. It was established in 1825, and has heretofore charged an annual membership fee of \$2.

New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox, and Tilden foundations. The collection of pamphlets and reports, on a very broad scale, is planned by Dr. Billings, who has recently issued a circular, expressing the desire of the library "to obtain, maintain, and preserve for the benefit of

the public as complete a collection as possible of all reports and pamphlets relating to associations of men and women for any purpose, and especially of all those relating to such associations in the city and state of New York and in the United States." It is explained that this will include state and municipal documents; and also, plans of organization, charters, constitutions, by-laws and regulations, lists of members and reports, of corporations, institutions, and organizations of all kinds, as, for example, of "art associations, athletic associations, banks, guarantee safe deposit and trust companies, boards of trade and chambers of commerce, building associations, cemeteries and crematories, educational institutions, colleges, libraries, schools, universities, gas and electric lighting companies, genealogical associations, insurance companies, labor organizations, mining companies, charitable organizations and institutions, churches and religious associations and organizations, clubs, commercial and manufacturing associations, municipal reform associations, mutual aid associations, professional associations, railroads, scientific and literary associations, secret societies, and waterworks."

"All documents published by or relating to such associations, including addresses and pamphlets of all kinds, will be gladly received and carefully preserved. Documents printed solely for the information of members of associations, and marked 'Confidential,' will be filed and preserved, but not made accessible to the public until the need for secrecy has passed away. It is earnestly requested that the secretaries of all such associations will place the address of this library upon their mailing lists."

New York State L. (77th rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, 1894.) The 1894 report of the New York State Library, dated Jan. 2, 1895, has recently appeared in official form as a massive volume of over 1000 pages. The report proper, covering 64 pages, naturally gives data that has previously appeared in the *L. J.*, six pages being devoted to an account of the A. L. A. conferences of 1893 and 1894, of the Publishing Section, and of the Association of State Librarians. This is followed by "Statistics of New York libraries for 1894" (*L. J.* 20: 324), Legislation bulletin, nos. 4 and 5, giving summaries of legislation in 1893 and 1894 (*L. J.* 20: 223), subject index of law additions (*L. J.* 20: 327), and the catalog of additions to the library from 1890-1894 noted, in its separate form, elsewhere in this issue.

In the secretary's report on the University of the State of New York for the year ending Sept. 30, 1895, just issued as Regents' bulletin no. 35, later information concerning the library is given. The growth for the year is stated as 14,328, giving a total, exclusive of travelling and extension libraries, of 190,426; the grand total, including 126,638 duplicates, is 337,929. "The recall of borrowers' outstanding permits and the reissue of permits only to those who had some special claim on the library, or who could give conclusive reason why they should have

privileges not accorded to the general public, resulted in the circulation of a slightly smaller number of volumes than during the preceding year. It is believed that a limited circulation makes the library more useful to a greater number than a close restriction of the books to reference use, but as the library is primarily for reference, it requires constant care to keep a just balance between the rights of the two classes of readers."

Ogden (Utah) P. L. A. On the evening of July 10 the association held a public reception in its new quarters. It was largely attended, and a short address on the history of the library was made by Hon. David Evans. The opening of the library under the new conditions marks a notable advance in its fortunes. The rooms now occupied were formerly used as a fire station, and are on the first floor of the city hall, in which the library has been located since it was opened five years ago. The rooms were enlarged and fitted up by the city council, and the association spent about \$175 on new shelving, chairs, and tables, besides receiving many gifts of books and money. It is hoped that the help of the city council thus secured will soon result in a municipal appropriation for the support of the library. The recent action to this effect taken by the Salt Lake City council is most encouraging to those interested in the Ogden library.

Ohio State L., Columbus. It has been proposed to remove the library from the capitol building to the state university, and the suggestion will be submitted to the next legislature. The change is urged on the ground that it will give the library needed room and will relieve the present overcrowding at the state house.

Philadelphia F. L. of Economics. A Free Library of Economics and Political Science was opened in June at 1315 Filbert street. The intentions of the founders are briefly stated as (1) to form a free library complete in its collection of books, pamphlets, and periodicals relating to economics and political science; (2) to arrange for classes and courses of lectures to be conducted by some of the existing societies in Philadelphia, or independently as may seem better in each case; (3) to supply foreign as well as local requests for literature by direct sale or by forwarding to publishers. This part of the work will be of special value in the case of reports of societies and pamphlet literature published in other countries than the United States; and (4) to develop the scope of the library through correspondence, and to extend the loan of literature beyond Philadelphia as the financial conditions warrant.

The Free Library of Philadelphia and the American Academy of Political and Social Science have already co-operated largely in the work, and other kindred societies are expected to give a helping hand. The library will be open on Sundays and in the evening. Miss Helen Marot is librarian.

Port Huron (Mich.) P. L. (2d rpt.) Added 2107; total 4349. Issued 31,588; no. borrowers, 1750. The report covers but 10 months, to May 1, for the library was not opened in its new quarters to the public until July, 1896, when it started work with municipal support. The growth in the use of the library under its improved conditions has been most gratifying.

Quincy (Ill.) P. L. The librarian's report for the year ending May 31 gives the following facts. Added 4371; total 23,183. Issued, home use 79,098 (fict. 42,165); ref. use 5093; Sunday use 1344; issued on teachers' cards 549. Visitors to reading-room 62,117. New registration 882; total cardholders 5104.

Redlands (Cal.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending July 1, '97.) Added 1053; total 4043. Issued, home use 23,776 (fict. 12,373, juv. fict. 3399). Attendance in reading-room 17,402. New registration 376; total registration 1439.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. Several interesting developments of the library's work have been planned for the fall. One of the most important is the establishment of a special school collection of books for little children. In arranging for this, Mr. Crunden has sent out a circular to all public school teachers, in which he says: "With a view to supplying the means for arousing and satisfying the curiosity of little ones beginning to read, it is proposed to send to every school in the city a sample lot of Mother Goose rhymes and fairy stories for examination by principals and teachers in the lower grades. Those who first receive the books will kindly return them as soon as possible, in order that they may be sent to other schools. When sending back the books principals are requested to indicate—

"1. Whether they would like to have books of the kind submitted for use in their lower grades.

"2. Which of the books they prefer, or if they approve equally of all.

"3. Whether they would prefer assorted lots—two or three copies each of 10 or 15 different books, or sets of, say, 30 copies of the same book, to be changed from time to time.

"The latter plan would, I think, intensify the interest and would, perhaps, make class exercises more practicable. The method of using the books, however, would, of course, be left entirely to the teachers. If they think it advisable the children might take the books home."

It is hoped to have the system, if approved, in working order by October.

It is also proposed to establish delivery stations in the power-houses of the various city street-car lines. These stations will be in charge of one of the employees of the company, and two deliveries a week will be made from the main library. As the companies will furnish the rooms and pay the men in charge, the plan entails but a trifling expense to the library, and will, it is thought, bring the influence of the library to many who will appreciate it

but to whom it would be otherwise unobtainable.

Southport, Ct. Pequot L. (3d rpt.) Added 3785; total 12,058. Issued, home use 14,620 (fict. 61 % including juv. fict.; juv. 22 %). New cards issued 190; total registration 1071. Reading-room attendance 15,984.

On July 20 the library received an endowment of \$30,000 from Mrs. Elbert B. Monroe, its founder. There have been several interesting exhibits in the reading-room during the past year. These have been only of such pictures as could easily be shown on screens, and have included posters, the Copley prints of the Boston Public Library decorations, Japanese wood prints and Japanese colored photographs.

Sturbridge, Mass. Hyde P. L. The Joshua Hyde Public Library, given to Sturbridge by the late George D. Hyde, of Boston, was dedicated on the afternoon of July 22. The chief address was by Prof. George H. Haynes, of Worcester, who described the development of the local library from its beginning as a school district library in 1842. In 1850 the Quinebaug Library Association was organized, and in 1873 its collection of 500 v. was transferred to town control, an appropriation being made for its support. It was opened to the public in the town hall on July 23, 1873. S. S. Green, of the Worcester Public Library, made a short address, in which he announced that there was not a town in Worcester county without a public library, and that Sturbridge was the 20th town in the county to establish its library in a beautiful new building.

The building, which was designed by architect Darrow, of Boston, was begun in May, 1896, and completed last December. It is a one-story structure, colonial in style, of cream-colored brick, with white marble trimmings. Its most striking features are the entrance, with its massive white pillars, and the dome. To the right and left of the entrance are small cloak and toilet rooms, while a few feet further on, and nearly in the centre of the room, is the librarian's desk, which faces the south. The interior of the building, with the exception of the toilet and cloak rooms, is all one large room, whose length and breadth over all are approximately those of the entire building, 50 by 23 feet. The southerly half of the room, to the right of the entrance, is for the general public, while the division in the rear of the librarian's desk serves as the stack-room. Running entirely around this division is a gallery, provided with shelving for books, and reached by stairs, which rise from near the librarian's desk. Directly opposite the entrance and beneath one end of the gallery is the brick fireplace, fitted on one side with a broad seat. Running around the public part of the room, beneath the windows, are beautiful panels of oak, while the walls are finished in a brownish clouded effect, which fades into a creamy tint at the ceiling. The stack half of the room, including the gallery, has a shelving capacity for 10,000 v.

The bequest from which the building has

been erected was \$20,000, of which one-half was to be devoted to a building, and the income of the remainder to be applied to the purchase of books.

University of the State of N. Y. (Extension dept., 3d rpt., 1895.) This report, which has just appeared in a volume of 408 p. with imprint date of 1897, is made up of reports of various divisions of the extension department that have previously appeared, and that, in so far as they relate to library matters, have been noted in the L. J. Besides the director's brief report, it contains the following Extension bulletins: no. 13, on summer schools (L. J. 21: 386); nos. 14-15, \$500 library recommended for schools (L. J. 21: 523); no. 16, report of Public Libraries Division, 1895 (L. J. 22: 261); and no. 17, devoted wholly to a review of progress in extension teaching.

Utica (N. Y.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, '97.) Added 1282, of which 637 were gifts; total, 23,144; issued, home use 140,477 (fict. 79 %); visitors to ref. dept. 5952. New registration 2611; total cards in use, about 5000.

"Perhaps no department is more appreciated and utilized than the children's corner. Since a course of reading for class and home use was arranged for the schools with reference to the age and grade of the scholar, the number of juvenile readers has greatly increased. The improvement resulting from a well-selected course instead of a promiscuous choice by the pupils themselves is very marked. What is specially desired by the librarian and the trustees is to open a separate reading-room as a children's department and to enlarge the reference department. It is now almost impossible to find shelf room for the increased number of volumes cataloged, to say nothing of keeping them in their proper order."

Wausau, Wis. A library has recently been opened in Wausau, the common council having made an appropriation for its support.

Westfield, N. Y. Patterson L. The library was opened to the public on July 12; it contains 6307 v., and was given to the town by the late Miss Hannah Patterson.

Youngstown (O.) P. L. (Rpt.—year ending April 30, '97.) Added 1496; total 11,971. Issued, home use 51,232; ref. attendance 1092. Receipts \$4123.15; expenses \$2723.33.

"The experiment of furnishing sets of books to schools was so satisfactory that we have added five more sets of 25 volumes each, and four more sets of the supplementary reading. We now have 20 sets for home circulation and 20 sets for class use in schools. These books have been in use nearly two years, and but two volumes have been lost. The 500 books for home circulation aggregated 2111 volumes to 760 pupils, many of whom would not have read a single book, probably, if they had depended upon coming to the library for it. The teachers have used the library more freely than in any previous year. 106 teachers have drawn 1206 volumes, mostly for school work."

Practical Notes.

BOOK-CASE. Described in the *Official Gazette* of the U. S. Patent Office, Apr. 20, 1897. 79:345. 1 col. il.

Quite an ingenious invention, using pulleys, ropes, pistons, cylinders, etc.

BOOK-SUPPORT. Described in *Official Gazette* of U. S. Patent Office, June 1, 1897. 79:1385 il.

"The combination with a book-shelf having longitudinal grooves therein, of a book-supporter made up of a curved strip of wire or sheet metal, the arms of which lie parallel to one another and are formed with flanges lying at right angles to the main portion thereof, said flanges being adapted to fit and move within the grooves in said shelf, and a plate of metal separate from but riveted or otherwise secured to said flanges and adapted to slip upon the top surface of said shelf."

LIBRARY POSTAL-CARDS. The new four years' contract for postal-cards recently made by the government includes the issue of a second postal-card somewhat smaller than the standard size. This is the result of the repeated applications of Mr. Melvil Dewey, who has long urged the issue of a card that can be inserted, if desired, in a library card catalog or index. Mr. Dewey's argument is that the large libraries supply one another with data on postal-cards, which are filed to make a card index; this makes it necessary to cut a card down after its receipt to the uniform index-card dimensions, five by three inches, and slip it into its proper place in the drawer. This cutting of every card as it comes out of the mail is burdensome, and for some time librarians have been desirous of either a change in the size of the standard card or the issue of a separate card of index size. The department has this year agreed to make the trial, and to decide whether the change is sufficiently desired to be worth making it permanent. It has ordered, however, only 200,000,000 cards of the index size, against 1,800,000,000 of the standard.

Librarians.

ALVORD, Thomas, jr., was on July 12 appointed chief of the art department of the Congressional Library. Mr. Alvord, who is a son of Thomas G. Alvord, formerly a member of the New York legislature, has been for some years the Washington correspondent of the *New York World*, and recently made a trip to Cuba for that newspaper.

BURSCH, Daniel F. W., for several years librarian of the Portland (Ore.) Library Association, has resigned his position, and intends to enter business with his father in Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Bursch is a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School, class of 1892. He has been succeeded at the Portland Library by D. P. Leach, formerly assistant librarian.

DICKINSON, Joseph R., for 20 years librarian of Ohio Wesleyan University, died at his home in Delaware, O., on July 24. Mr. Dickinson was born on Staten Island in 1829. He went to Ohio in 1846, when he entered as a student the university with which he was so long connected.

HUTCHESON, David, for many years Mr. Spofford's principal assistant in the Congressional Library, was on July 12 appointed superintendent of the reading-room on the new library staff. The appointment is non political, and strictly along the line of direct merit and civil-service reform. Mr. Hutcheson in his connection with the library has shown executive capacity, courtesy, and tact, and he is especially fitted for the post assigned to him. The appointment has been received with general cordial approval.

MERRIMAN, Erle H., assistant in the St. Joseph (Mo.) Public Library, has accepted a similar position in the Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library.

PHILLIPS, P. Lee, has been appointed chief of the department of maps and charts in the Congressional Library. Mr. Phillips has been in charge of the cartographic collection of the library for many years, and is specially fitted for the position by his experience and enthusiasm in his work. It is largely due to him that the maps and charts in the library have been cataloged and made at all available for public use, and he has been called the creator of this department of the library.

SOLBERG, Thorvald, was on July 17 appointed Register of Copyrights at the Congressional Library, a position that next to the chief assistant librarian is the most important on the staff of the new library. No better appointment for this post could have been made, and the new Bureau of Copyrights is fortunate in securing thus at the outset the services of a man who is probably better fitted than any other to handle its work. Mr. Solberg was born of Norwegian parents on April 12, 1852, in Manitowoc, Wis. He received a common school education, and entered the book business at an early age. On May 1, 1876, he entered the Library of Congress as cataloger, remaining until May, 1889, some eight years of that time being spent in the law library. His interest in the work of the copyright office led to the preparation of his "Bibliography of literary property: a catalog of books and articles relating to copyright." This was printed in the *Publishers' Weekly* in 1885, and reprinted in 1886 in "Copyright, its law and its literature," by R. R. Bowker. In 1887, while in the Library of Congress, Mr. Solberg was granted six months' leave of absence to visit the capitals of Europe and gather information regarding the bibliography of foreign codes and statutes. This afforded him opportunity to perfect his bibliography of copyright by the addition of several hundred titles. Becoming interested in the struggle for the international copyright law, he prepared a his-

tory of the movement and published it as a pamphlet, "International copyright in the United States, 1837-86." In 1888 he served as secretary *pro tem* for the International Copyright Association of the District of Columbia, and was elected its corresponding secretary. He was active in urging the amendment to the Chace bill, and at the request of the joint committee of the Authors' and Publishers' Copyright League submitted a revised text of that bill as it had been passed by the senate on May 9, 1888, together with a verbal argument in support of the amendments proposed. These are printed in a pamphlet entitled "International copyright," and the text as amended was adopted by the committee and printed by order of the senate, and became substantially the text of the act of 1891. Mr. Solberg has been a member of the council of the Authors' Copyright League for eight or 10 years. In 1893 he attended, by invitation of the director of the International Copyright Bureau at Berne, the Copyright Congress at Barcelona, and as a member of the International Literary and Artistic Association of Paris, the Copyright Conference at Antwerp. He has been a frequent contributor of copyright articles to *Le Droit d'Auteur*, the *Journal du Droit Internationale*, several German periodicals, the *Nation*, the *Publishers' Weekly* and the *Critic*, and he has an extensive and valuable private collection of copyright literature. Mr. Solberg has been a member of the A. L. A. since 1886, and for some years past has been connected with the Boston Book Co.

Cataloging and Classification.

BROOKLINE (Mass.) P. L. Catalogue of music, corrected to June, 1897. 30 p. nar. D.

A well-arranged list, covering an excellent collection of pianoforte music, chamber music, operas, sacred music and songs. Copies may be obtained of the librarian at 10 c. each.

HAMILTON (Ontario, Can.) P. L. Catalogue of books, July, 1897. 120 p. O.

Title-a-line classed (D. C.) list, including all books except English fiction, followed by author index. The catalog of English fiction is issued as a supplement of 73 p., titles being arranged numerically in order of the numbers in the indicator.

LONDON (Ontario, Can.) P. L. Class catalogue. June 1, 1897. 122 p. O.

Lists, generally in title-a-line entries, about 10,000 v. Author lists of adult fiction and juveniles are followed by a D. C. classed list and subject index. Anonymous books, instead of being entered under the first word of title appear only under the word "Anonymous," at the head of each alphabet. In fiction and juveniles authors' surnames only are given. There is considerable carelessness in proof-reading, and some curious errors, as the inclusion of Ouida's "House party" in the juvenile division, the listing of "Cecil Dreeme" as by George Will-

iam Curtis, and the seriously made entry "Gulliver. Travels." The catalog is printed on lemon-colored paper, rather too staring in tint to be agreeable.

The LOWELL (Mass.) CITY L. *Bulletin* for June contains reference list no. 7 on astronomy.

The MECHANICS' INSTITUTE L., San Francisco, in its July *Bulletin* has a reference list on "Municipal government," including magazine articles as well as books.

PEORIA (Ill.) P. L. New books added from January to June, 1897. 4 p. O.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. *Bulletin* for July contains reference list no. 47 on "The Hawaiian Islands," special catalog no. 17 being a classified list of periodicals, annuals, and serials received at the library; and the usual quarterly index to reference lists of other libraries.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. Extension bulletin no. 19, May, 1897. Summer schools: report of summer school division, 1896. Albany, 1897. p. 32-108. O. 10 c.

A descriptive summary of the various summer schools and conventions meeting in 1897, arranged by states, followed by detailed tabulated statistics of work done in 1896.

— Public libraries division. New York state travelling libraries, nos. 28-32. *ca.*, Tt.

Nos. 28 and 31 are finding lists of young people's libraries of 25 v. each; the others list selections of general literature, 50 v. each. All but no. 32 are annotated.

— State Library bulletin, additions no. 3. September, 1894. Albany, 1897. 1364 p. O. 75 c.

This portly volume contains the additions made to the state library from Oct. 1, 1890 to April 1, 1894. It is a D. C. classed list, followed by an author list and a full subject index, and in its accuracy of technical detail and comprehensiveness of scope should prove extremely useful as a guide and model in libraries.

— State Library bulletin. Bibliographies no. 2-4. July, 1897. Reading lists on Colonial New England; travel in North America; history of the 17th century. Albany, 1897. p. 19-92. 10 c.

Contains three excellent bibliographies prepared by students of the library school for graduation examinations. The reading list on "Colonial New England" is by Minnie Cornwell Wilson, class of 1895, and covers p. 19-33; "Travel in North America" (p. 37-60) is a select bibliography, by Charles William Plympton, submitted for graduation in 1891 and revised in 1896; and the reading list on "History of the 17th century" (p. 63-92) is by Grace F. Leonard, of the class of 1895. All the lists are annotated and show careful and painstaking work.

Bibliography.

AMERICAN HISTORY. Montgomery, D. H. The students' American history. Bost., Ginn, 1897. 7 + 523 + 55 p. por. maps, O. \$1.55.

Useful as a bibliographical guide to the subject. Over 2000 works of acknowledged merit are cited in the appendix, and there is also a six-page classified list of books on American history.

BOASE, Frederic. Modern English biography, containing many thousand concise memoirs of persons who have died since the year 1850. v. 2. Truro: For the author, 1897. 888 p. 4".

This volume contains the letters I-Q, and it is arranged on the same lines as the first volume, published in 1892. The index shows that the sketches of 41 librarians are contained in vol. 2, and it also gives the real names of some 249 pseudonymous writers.

CHURCH AND STATE. Johnston, W. Dawson, and Jean Browne, eds. The relations between church and state, modern, 1547-1869. Ann Arbor, Sheehan, 1897. 58 p. O. (Eng. hist. reprints, no. 2.) 25 c.

Contains a select four-page bibliography with annotations.

CIVIL LISTS. A list of civil lists, for American history. [*In American Historical Review*, v. 2, no. 4, p. 758-766.]

The collection is of lists of civil officers only, and does not extend to other states than the original 13.

DICKENS, Charles. Kitton, F. G. The novels of Charles Dickens: a bibliography and sketch. N. Y., Armstrong, 1897. 8 + 245 p., por. D. (Book-lovers' lib.) \$1.25; \$1.50.

FLORIDA LAW. Cole, Theodore Lee. Bibliography of the statute law of the southern states: Florida [from publications of the Southern History Association, July, 1897]. Washington, D. C., Statute Law-Book Co., 1897. p. 211-225. O.

This series of bibliographies, in which Alabama and Arkansas have already appeared, are paged as in the publications of which they are reprints; they do not, as erroneously stated (L. J., June, p. 327), continue the pagination of one another.

MAGAZINES. Faxon, F. W. A bibliography of ephemeral bibelots, from their first issue to June 1, 1897. Boston, Boston Book Co., 1897. 16 p. T. (*Bulletin of Bibliography* pamphlets, no. 1.) 25 c.

Reprinted from the June no. of the Boston Book Company's *Bulletin of Bibliography*. About 100 of the various "fad" magazines and ephemeral publications that have sprung up

within the last few years are listed. Most of them date from 1895 or later, and the *Chap-book* and the *Yellow Book* are among the pioneers. The list is an interesting revelation of the number and variety of these curious publications.

WORLD'S FAIR CONGRESSES. Charles C. Bonney, whose bibliography of publications growing out of the proceedings of the World's Fair congresses of 1893 was published in the *Dial* of Jan. 1, 1896, contributes to the *Dial* of July 16 a supplementary list on the subject. It includes 23 titles, bringing the total record of these publications up to 127.

INDEXES.

INDEXLESS BOOKS. The record of books published within the past month or so without needed indexes comprises "The genesis of Shakespeare's art," by E. J. Dunning (Lee & Shepard); "The dungeons of old Paris," by Tighe Hopkins (Putnam); Chamberlain's "Samuel Sewall and the world he lived in" (De Wolfe); and Waliszewski's "Peter the Great" (Appleton). In the case of the Waliszewski and Hopkins books the omission is particularly regrettable, as both abound in references to historic places and persons.

Anonyms and Pseudonyms.

"The house of dreams," recently published anonymously by Dodd, Mead & Co., is by W. J. Dawson, author of "London idylls," etc. (*Vide Bookman*, Aug., p. 452.)

"Why we punctuate," by a journalist," published by the Lancet Publishing Co., is by W. L. Klein, editor of the *Northwestern Lancet*, of Minneapolis. P. B. W.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE. — As the LIBRARY JOURNAL has frequent and urgent requests for back numbers of the JOURNAL, where only one or two are needed to complete sets or long series of back volumes, the publisher will be glad to receive from past subscribers or present possessors of previous volumes, word as to the particular number or numbers, where not more than two or three are required for the purpose, which are lacking to complete sets or continuous series of volumes. It should be stated specifically whether full sets can be completed or what range of volumes can be filled out by such missing numbers. Fresh endeavors will then be made to obtain a supply of these missing numbers in the order of importance in completing sets or long series, and in case a considerable number of sets or long series could be completed by the reproduction of one, two, or three numbers, the publisher will consider the practicability of causing such numbers to be reproduced.

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The publisher reserves the right to raise the price of this work to 60 francs.

Dante: Les Plus Anciennes Traductions Françaises de la Divine Comédie.

Publiées pour la première fois d'après les manuscrits de Turin, Paris et Vienne. Précédées d'une Étude sur les Traductions Françaises du Poème du Dante. Par C. MOREL, chancelier de l'Université de Fribourg (Suisse). 35 Francs.

1re Partie: Textes: 1 vol. gr. in-8 de V-693 pages, avec 3 planches in-4 (facsimilés paléographiques) et les portraits de Dante et de Béatrice.

2e Partie: Album de 21 planches (miniatures et textes reproduits en héliogravure).

With the above work, the following will be furnished without extra charge, but will not be delivered separately.

Philologischer Kommentar zu der Französ. Übertragung von Dante's Inferno

in der Hs. L III 17 der Turiner Universitätsbibliothek. Von E. STENGEL, Professor an der Universität zu Greifswald.

The publisher has acquired a small edition of the following work, published privately by the author:

Nachträge und Berichtigungen zur Münzkunde der Römischen Republik.

Im Anschluss an Babelon's Verzeichniss der Consular-Münzen, von M. BAHRFELDT. Gr. 8°. IX-316 Seiten, mit 113 Abbild. im Texte u. 13 Taf. m. 632 Fig. 1897. 20 Francs.

Collection de Reproductions et de Réimpressions D'Ouvrages Rares du XIXe Siècle.

Tomes I, II, III, IV. 4 vols., 8°. 42 Francs 50 Centimes.

I. La Tragedie Française au XVIe Siècle. Par E. FAGUET. 1 vol. in-8° (Facsimilé). 391 pages. 10 Francs.

II. Documents inédits pour servir à l'histoire littéraire de l'Italie depuis le VIIIe siècle jusqu'au XIIIe. Avec des recherches sur le moyen-âge italien. Par A. F. OZANAM. 1 vol. in-8° (Facsimilé). VI-418 pages. 18 Francs 50 Centimes.

III. Les Origines Latines du Theatre Moderne. Par E. DU-MÉNIL. 1 vol. in-8° (Facsimilé). 420 pages. 12 Francs 50 Centimes.

IV. Precieux et Precieuses. Caractères et mœurs littéraires du XVIIe siècle. 1 vol. in-8° (Réimpression, 3e édition). XXXV-443 pages. 7 Francs 50 Centimes.

A New Work by Abbé Rousselot.

Principes de Phonétique Expérimentale.

1 vol. in-8°, avec beaucoup de figures. 1897. Circa. 15 to 20 Francs.

The first part is now ready for delivery. The price for the present is fixed at 15 francs. Should the expense of manufacturing render it necessary to raise the price to 20 francs, the remaining 5 francs will be charged when the concluding part is ready for delivery.

The following, by the same author, have also been published by the undersigned.

Les Modifications Phonétiques du Langage.

Gr. in-8°, de VIII-374 pages av. 116 fig. 1891. 25 Francs.

The above is also contained in Nos. 15, 16, 19, 20, and 21 of the

Revue des Patois Gallo-Romans,

of which I am able to offer the whole collection — 5 vols. and supplement, 1887-93 — for 50 Francs instead of 105 Francs, the published price.

The following is also based upon Rousselot's principles:

Les Parlers Parisiens

Anthologie phonétique. Par E. KOSCHWITZ. 2e édition. In-8°, 186 pages, handsomely bound. 1896. 4 Francs 50 Centimes.

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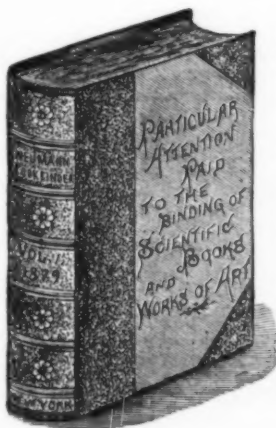
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BOOKS WANTED.

Butte Free Public Library, Butte City, Montana.

Art Amateur, Sept., 1893.
Mining and Scientific Press, July 28, 1894.
Public Opinion, Oct. 12, 1893; Nov. 29, '94.
Library Journal, Jan., 1895.

Oase Library, Cleveland, O.

Street Railway Journal, 1889 to date.
Mason's Pequot War, Sabin's reprint.

New Hampshire State Library.

Historical Magazine, 1st series, v. 8-10.

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| Annales des Sciences naturelles , I. Series complete. 33 Vols. Paris, 1824-33. Half calf. | Monthly Microscopical Journal . Complete Set, 33 Vols. London, 1869-92. Half calf. |
| Annales des Sciences naturelles: Zoologie, Paleontologie . Series II. to VII. complete. 109 Vols. Paris, 1834-92. Half morocco. | Jahrbuch für Mineralogie . Complete Set, 89 Vols. Stuttgart, 1830-91. Half calf. |
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| Journal of Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland . I. and II. Series. 46 Vols. London, 1834-94. Half morocco. | Transactions of the Geological Society of London . Complete Set. London, 1811-56. Half calf. |
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